March 1998

Deaf Life

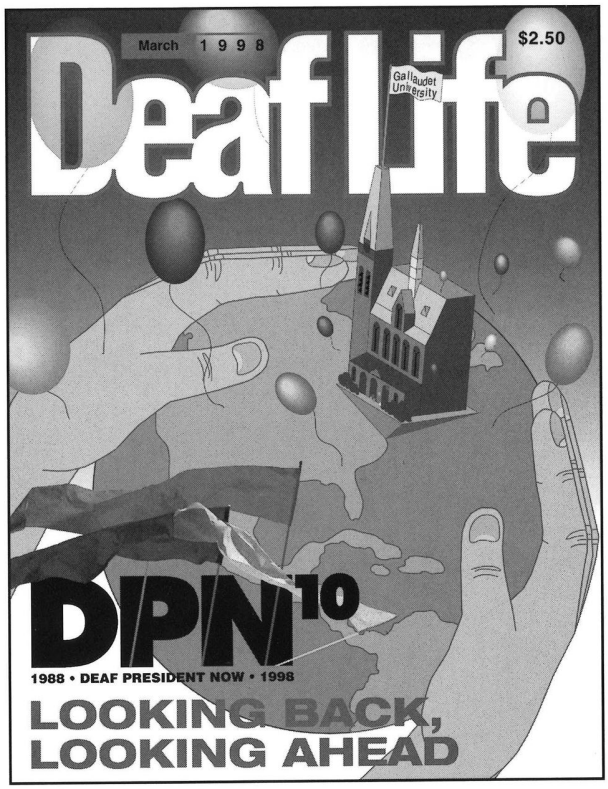
$2.50

DPN 10

1988 • DEAF PRESIDENT NOW • 1998

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

VOLUME X, NUMBER 9 MARCH 1998



COVER

DESIGN BY MATTHEW S. MOORE
ILLUSTRATION BY TONY L. McGREGOR
"DPN 10" LOGO COURTESY OF GALLAUDET UNIV.

MARCH 8, 1998 MARKS THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY of the "Deaf President Now" revolution at Gallaudet University. On Sunday, March 6, 1988, Gallaudet's Board of Trustees, which had the responsibility of selecting Gallaudet's seventh president, chose a hearing administrator over two qualified deaf candidates. What began as a protest organized by alumni, advocates, and students against the Board's decision rapidly turned into an international civil-rights movement for Deaf people. It was unusually successful, especially considering deaf people's previous reluctance to engage in organized rebellion. And we are still feeling its after-effects. Now is a good time to look back, re-evaluate DPN, discuss what it means to us, and how we can profit from its lessons to continue the process of change. 10

Publisher's Note

Can you believe that's it's been ten years—a whole decade—since the Deaf President Now uprising at Gallaudet University? Ten years—already? Many of us will shake our heads and say, "But it seems like only yesterday!" Some of us recall how we followed the developments on prime-time TV and on the front pages of newspapers, stunned, fascinated, excited, anxious about the outcome, and finally triumphant with joy. Some were indirectly involved. Some of us were there. Some of us were too young to understand what was happening.

Looking back, I see that DPN was not the simple good-guys-rebelling-against bad-guys scenario that the media made it out to be. It was a complicated event, and the results have been largely positive, but not unmixed. Still, DPN should serve as a powerful reminder of what Deaf people can do, given the motivation and support. When they work together towards a common cause, they can indeed "change the world." Even though we have a long ways to go in the quest for equal rights, DPN was a leap forward. Even if Deaf unity has proven a most elusive goal, DPN proved it was possible.

Yes, we are better off now than before DPN. No argument. Some things have changed; some things haven't changed at all. Some situations have worsened. We've won some battles and lost others, but at least we're fighting.

By all means, let's celebrate—and let's also think of the task that remains unfinished, and what each of us can do to carry forward the process of positive change.

Matthew S. Moore

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HISTORICAL PAGE-TURNER

■ John B. Christiansen and Sharon N. Barnartt's **Deaf President Now! The 1988 Revolution at Gallaudet University** is an meticulously-researched account of the DPN revolution, examines who was involved, how and why it happened, the aftermath, and its significance as a civil-rights movement. It sheds new light on some of the events of "the week that shook the world." Reviewed in this issue. **7**

DeafView
READERS' VIEWPOINT

NO OPEN DOOR?

■ Should the deaf Mexican immigrants be granted U.S. citizenship? We received very mixed responses: 22% say yes, 62% say no, 15% aren't sure. Several respondents note that they have mixed feelings about the situation. While they empathize with the plight of the Mexican, they don't feel that it's fair to give illegal aliens preferential treatment just because they're deaf. (What's to stop hearing illegals from demanding equal rights?) And, as one notes, the "U.S. is already overloaded with foreigners who want to come here and have the same shot at the 'American Dream.'" Others feel that since Mexico has failed to give them a decent education or opportunities, they deserve a break *here*. But one respondent suggests that Deaf volunteers go to Mexico to improve the situation *there*. **30**

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Deaf Life

DEAF LIFE (ISSN 0898-719X) is published monthly for $30.00 per year ($42.00 outside of the U.S.) by MSM Productions, Ltd., 1095 Meigs St., Rochester, NY 14620. Periodical postage paid at Rochester, NY.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **DEAF LIFE** c/o MSM Productions, Ltd., Box 23380, Rochester, New York 14692-3380.

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LETTERS

"Certified" *vs.* "qualified": an aspiring interpreter's view

Hello **Deaf Life**:

Thank you for your great magazine. It keeps me in touch with all of the issues surrounding the Deaf community. :)

I would like to comment on a letter that was published in the December issue. The letter was titled "Certified or Qualified." I am an inspiring interpreter and will soon challenge myself to the RID written exam. In the meantime, I try to get jobs that match my skill level, and if I feel the job is over my head, then I regretfully turn it down. My concern is that some certified interpreters are not qualified and some qualified are not certified. So in saying so, this means that just because an interpreter is not certified, doesn't mean that they cannot do the job. More and more, we are going to see that certification is [an] absolute necessity; meanwhile, those certified are not necessarily qualified. So how do we as interpreters get our skills evaluated, fairly without preconceptions? I guess I always thought I had to be certified. But just because I get certified doesn't mean that all of a sudden I will get an influx of jobs or that my skills are terrific. Go figure!!! I can't figure it out. Oh well I just wanted to thank the person who wrote that letter. I thought it was excellent . . .

Again, thanks for the great articles. I *soooooo* enjoy them.

Kit Revard
Indianapolis, Indiana

MRI ≠ CAT scan!

Hi Matthew:

Note in **Deaf Life Plus** issue of January 1998 on page 13, second column:

"MRI: . . . e.g., a CAT scan"

Not quite. A CAT scan is a fancy X-ray. From my brochure for my patients:

> A computed tomography (CT) scan is a relatively simple, safe and completely painless examination that radiologists have performed for many years. The scan produces a series of images and can detect many conditions that do not show up on conventional X-rays.
>
> During the scan, a thin beam of X-rays is focused on a specific part of your body, such as the head, chest, liver. the X-ray tube moves rapidly around this part of the body, enabling multiple images to be made from different angles to create a cross-sectional picture. The X-ray beam is picked up by an electronic detector which records the information and feeds it into a computer. The computer then analyzes the information and constructs an image on a TV screen.

MRIs are quite different. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a technique that produces a very detailed picture of the internal organs and structures of the body without using X-rays. The electromagnetic energy released during this technique is measured and fed into a computer to form an image, which is projected onto a screen for viewing.

I am enjoying my own copies of **Deaf Life** and my Deaf patients appreciate having it to read in the reception room (no longer appropriate to call this the "waiting" room—an extension of PCness).

The SHIP (Society of Hearing Impaired Physicians) meeting in Boston this past November was a truly great success. About 28 hearing-impaired physicians, medical students, medical residents, and veterinarian students

showed up despite a major snowstorm that tied up the Boston airport for 8 hours on November 15. Many attendees just dropped their air plans (pun not intended) and either drove or took the trains. We project doubling our numbers by the next meeting.

Regards.

Frank P. Hochman, M.D.
Fremont, California

The Editors reply: *Oops! Our apologies for the error. And our thanks for setting matters straight. Readers who are interested in joining SHIP can contact Dr. Hochman at ❖fphship@aol.com.*

"We live with secret abuse, hidden abuse"

In our Deaf culture, What we live abuse? True is about sexual abuse, Verbal abuse, Body Language abuse, and Communication isolation abuse.

In most abuse there is sexual and physical/mental involvement. In the Deaf world there is a higher percentage of people who have experienced abuse in some form than those who have not. The sexual abuse takes place in residential programs, in mainstream settings, and in day students schools. No educational setting is exempt. In parent's homes there is extremely high ongoing communication isolation and physical/mental abuse toward Deaf children.

There are many high risk places and few safety zones. Deaf children experience oppression and isolation in all environments so that for most there is no place that feels really safe. This causes people in the Deaf culture to defend their close knit community and to have a harder time to trusting or to have low confidence. The results of abuse affects those who do not experience abuse.

Some of the staff; administrators, teachers, and staffs aides have high emotions from their backgrounds, and then they target children who lack communication skills.

Lack of communication can be a risk factor for deaf people, and for people with mental health issues and mental retardation because they have low confidence, and are stuck without the power of language. They cannot speak out.

I believe that Deaf children are a most targeted group because most have a normal physical appearance and because they use ASL or Gestural communication.

Most people don't know what ASL is—a full language by which any concept can be clearly expressed. This makes it difficult to understand clearly in translations of recounting incidents of abuse.

Deaf people know that Hearing don't recognize the value of ASL. They think that it is a fun language for Deaf's own culture. And they still teach them to put English first, without realizing how the systems of teaching work.

Because English is dependent on sound and hearing of language, it makes rules to get power and understanding of life. Deaf people have had to chase their hearing world to get power for life, but doesn't fit! Deaf people don't get deep enough understanding of the language to use it for power in their life. Again it causes unsuccessful feelings and low confidence.

Historically Hearing people have played with the education of Deaf students, evaluating and experimenting over and over. They hope to gain a better reputation for themselves while they are hiding their abuse of the children. Deaf and a few hearing people know what is the best way to educate deaf children to make them understand their second language English better. They know how to bring

LETTERS

up the I.Q. testing level. Right now Deaf people graduated in 3rd to 5th grade English levels.

But the system set up by Hearing people won't let it go. Deaf teacher can teach by using their Deaf culture with ASL, but most hearing systems, hearing teachers, administrators and staff don't have respect of ASL as a "first" language because they sign in English. This makes it difficult to get along with the Hearing world. It cause silly rules to be set up in Deaf schools that are different in Hearing schools. Deaf students have their brothers and sisters which go to hearing schools. They notice different rules than Deaf schools. It make them lower self-confident and more dependent. Also, with one Deaf child in family, about 90 percent don't use ASL. Most of them use vocal communication which cause difficulty in the family getting along. Again there is 90 percent of Deaf children experiencing low self-esteem. Because the vibes of their emotions spread into other Deaf people who had no experience of sexual abuse, physical/mental abuse, it makes a normalization of low education and self confidence into Deaf culture.

People have spoken out against the Verbal, Physical and Body Language abuse of Deaf children in Maine—But there is still silence about sexual abuse!

Now, what do about that??? Hey Deaf community must speak out to stop the cycle of life.

Mark Myers
Somerville, Maine

All letters must be signed and have a return address. No anonymous (unsigned) letters will be published, but we will withhold your name on request. Send letters to: **DEAF LIFE**, c/o MSM Productions, Box 23380, Rochester, NY 14692-3380. FAX: 716-442-6371. E-mail: deaflife@deaflife.com

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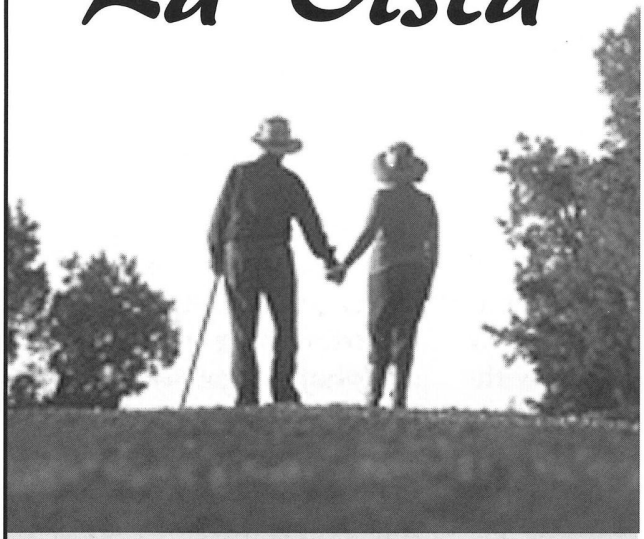

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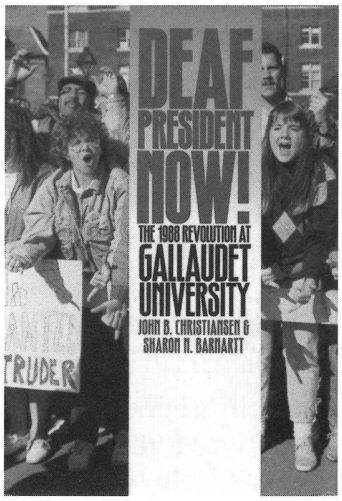
Book Review

DPN: The Passion and the Pressure



John B. Christiansen and Sharon N. Barnartt, **Deaf President Now! The 1988 Revolution at Gallaudet University**. Illus. Washington, D.C.: Gallaudet University Press, 1995. 240 pp., $24.95.

Finally, we have an in-depth analysis of the "Deaf President Now" uprising. Drawing on more than 50 interviews and 7 years of research, John B. Christiansen and Sharon N. Barnartt, professors of sociology at Gallaudet University, provide a detailed account of the chain of events leading up to DPN, trace the events happening in various places during the actual protest, and analyze its long-term socio-political significance.

This is a meticulously factual, scene-by-scene account of the key players, participants, events, and tensions. As an historical account, it's full of surprises.

As Christiansen and Barnartt note in their preface, "To call DPN a 'student protest,' as most accounts have done, presents too simple a picture of a set of complicated actions." Groups of alumni and advocates played a vital role in setting the stage for the revolt. In particular, a circle of six politically savvy Gallaudet alumni, known as the "Ducks," carefully orchestrated the earliest events. The Ducks—Stephen Hlibok, Mike O'Donnell, Jeff Rosen, Paul Singleton, James E. Tucker, and Fred Weiner—publicized the desirability of having a deaf president 9 months before DPN erupted. They planned the March 1 rally that did much to mobilize the largely indifferent student population, recruited supporters, developed strategies, wrote letters, networked. Having laid the groundwork for the protest, they stepped back to let the students take the spotlight and carry the momentum forward.

Alumni and faculty such as David Birnbaum, "Bummy" Burstein, Allen E. Sussman, and Astrid and Harvey Goodstein played major roles, too. So did other Gallaudet faculty, staff, and supporters, the DPN Council, the local and national Deaf community, the GUAA, NAD, "Frat," and interpreters, most of whom volunteered their services. DPN succeeded partially as a result of hearing support—graduate students, neighbors, friends, Congressmen, celebrities, disability advocates, sympathetic merchants, and the media. DPN quickly became "a remarkably organized and efficient effort."

Also important: the breakdown of governance at Gallaudet and the tactical blunders committed by the administration and Board, which seriously underestimated the students' passion and determination. Still, the protest did *not* have unanimous support on campus. Faculty support for Dr. Zinser, initially strong, swiftly evaporated—although peer pressure, even intimidation, may have had something to do with it. According to some accounts, opposition was effectively quelled.

The chronological account is followed by a sociological analysis. DPN is seen in the context of the civil-rights and disability-rights movements, and there's an account of its aftermath, including the fifth-anniversary celebration, "DPN: The Power and the Promise." There's an illuminating discussion of *why* DPN succeeded, and its effects on Gallaudet, the Ducks, the student leaders, other participants, and the community. DPN was, they say, "a protest about symbols." And it still has tremendous symbolic power.

Objective, dispassionate, but vivid and optimistic, this book evokes an astonishing chapter in our history. A real page-turner.

by Linda Levitan

FOR HEARING PEOPLE ONLY™

Do we need another "Deaf President Now" revolution?

The "Deaf President Now" movement of March 1988 was the single most astounding event in Deaf history. DPN was not the first organized Deaf protest. It *was* the most successful, and has served as an inspiration, if not a blueprint, for subsequent protests. But in terms of sheer impact, DPN was, and remains, unique.

What happens at Gallaudet University has profound repercussions at the other "sister schools," NTID and CSUN. NTID students were, we know, electrified by news of DPN. Several busloads sped to Washington to join the protest—which, by the time they arrived, had become a victory celebration.

Afterwards, they looked around and were, understandably enough, inspired to *think* about replicating DPN, a prospect that made the administration queasy. RIT had no deaf Board members, and NTID was headed by a hearing administrator who was a past president of the Bell Association, an oralist—signing, to be sure—but a controversial figure in the student community. There were not enough interpreters or notetakers for cross-registered RIT students, and equal access (TTYs, relay services, captioning of instructional films, etc.) was more of a dream than a reality.

When Dr. I. King Jordan visited NTID in November 1988 to discuss his experiences and take questions from a large and enthusiastic audience, one student said that some of them were considering pulling off their own DPN-style protest to put pressure on the administration to appoint a Deaf director and administrators, and didn't he think this was a good idea? Dr. Jordan tactfully replied that it wasn't. DPN was a revolution, a "once-in-a-lifetime" event, and any attempts to duplicate it would backfire. He explained that he was a traditionalist, a conservative, and believed in working through the officials channels first. Real change, he said, would take time. It was sage advice. There was no "NTID DPN." It turned out not to be necessary.

After Dr. William Castle, who had been NTID's director since its founding, announced his retirement in November 1994, a search process was initiated. It resulted in the appointment of NTID's first deaf director, Dr. Robert R. Davila. He was considered a "prize catch" and received a joyous welcome. He has been serving ably since.

Had NTID students attempted to pull off their own

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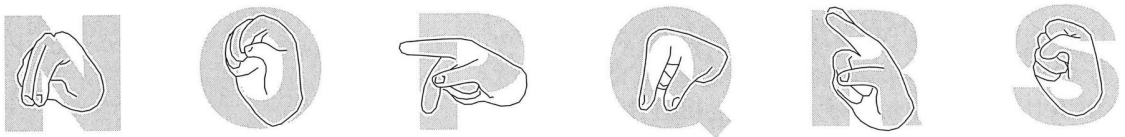

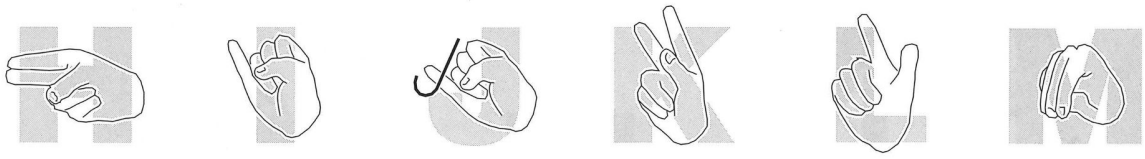

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version of DPN, it would have been an embarrassment—for them. We very much doubt that reporters and TV-news videocams would have descended *en masse*, eager for interviews and photo-ops.

What DPN accomplished noisily, with a week-long strike, marches, rallies, press conferences, extensive TV and print-media coverage, and hot controversy, NTID accomplished quietly, through official channels, but no less effectively.

Still, change comes slowly at times. RIT appointed its first deaf board member in 1989. Attorney Bonnie Tucker, an expert in disability law, is a staunch oralist who refuses to sign, opposes schools for the deaf, and uses a cochlear implant. She does *not* consider herself part of the Deaf community.

In Fall 1991, the NTID Student Congress organized a "Campus Access Now" protest to address the issues of accessibility, communication barriers, and support services. It was *not* conducted through a campus siege.

One further note: After Dr. Albert J. Simone became president of RIT in 1993, he began learning basic ASL, included brief signed remarks in his inaugural address, and later that year, gave a complete speech in sign to alumni. None of RIT's previous presidents had seen the need to learn sign language. Dr. Simone *wanted* to communicate directly with deaf people, to acknowledge that NTID students, faculty, and staff were an important part of the RIT community. A token gesture? We didn't think so. DPN had jolted our consciousness.

Has Gallaudet University, the epicenter of the revolution, been transformed by DPN? Surprisingly, in some ways, it hasn't. Most of the profound changes engendered by DPN have benefited the greater community—outside Gallaudet, that is.

In some situations, quiet diplomacy works best. In others, community-wide protest can have a swift and positive effect. The protests against the appointment of a hearing CEO for the Lexington Center (which began April 25, 1994) were most directly reminiscent of DPN. Three years after DPN, the Deaf community of Texas rallied against the reappointment of Gayle Lindsey, a much-resented hearing member of the Texas School for the Deaf Governing Board. On May 1, 1991, they marched on the State Capitol, and that day, Lindsey agreed to resign. The Connecticut community likewise rallied (on February 7, 1997) to oust an incompetent hearing political appointee, Valerie Marino, who had headed the state Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired for two years. Marino was reassigned to another department in July 1997, vacating the post of Executive Director.

A similar scenario involving the New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (the less-qualified hearing candidate getting chosen over two highly-qualified deaf candidates) ended differently, with the hearing appointee, Karen Courtney, refusing to step down, while the deaf finalist, Judith Viera, took a new job in another state—despite appeals and a vigorous E-mail campaign by Deaf advocates.

DPN taught us something about change. There are many constructive ways to effect change. Sometime it needs to be done clamorously; sometimes quietly. But the motive is the same. Deaf people demand a say in matters that affect their destiny—and to show that we are capable. That's what our struggle for civil rights is about.

Have a question about Deaf people and their culture?...
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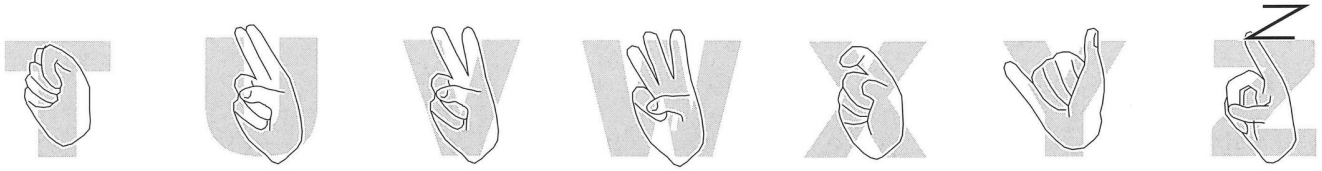


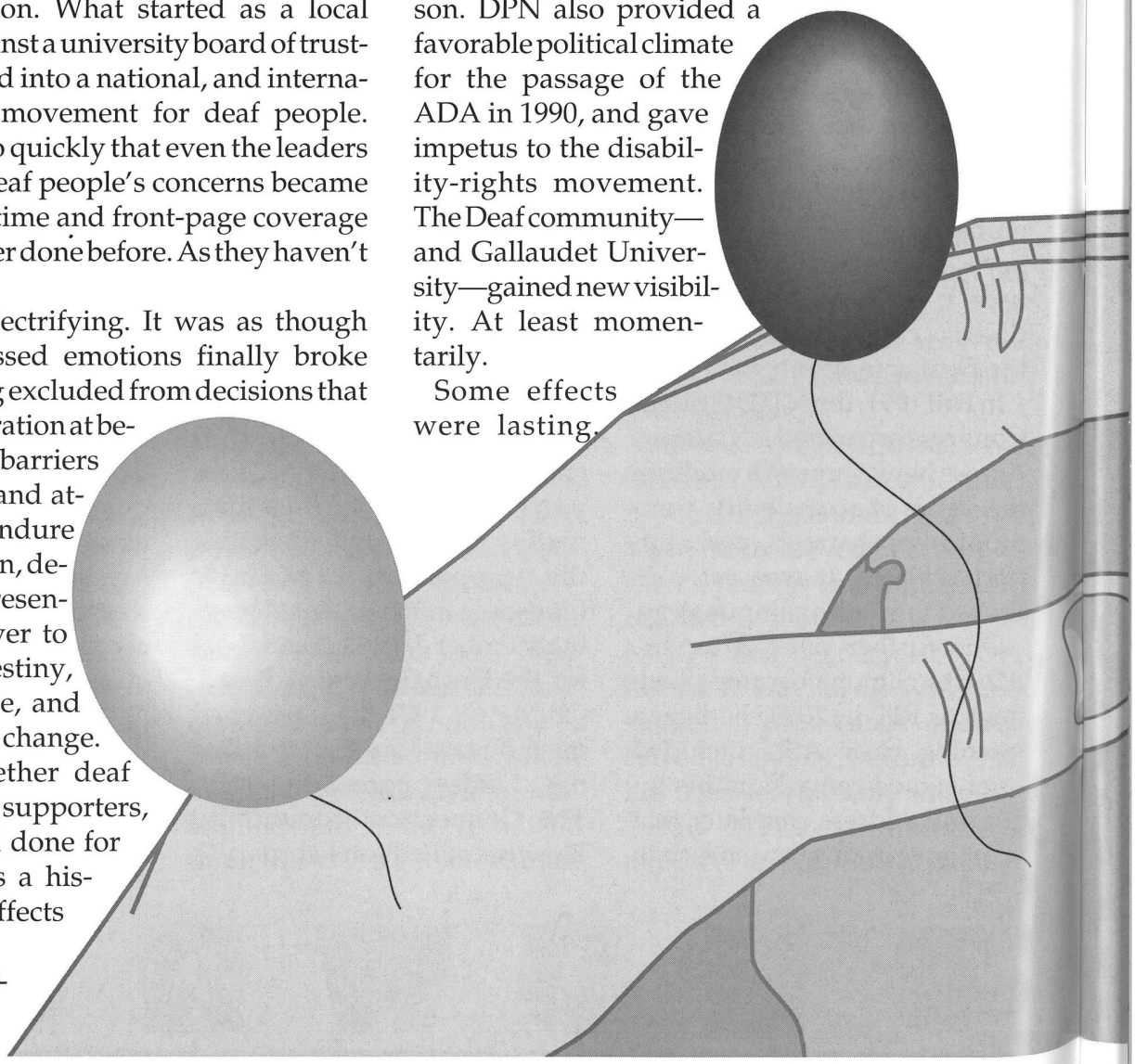
DPN + 10: Looking back, thinking ahead

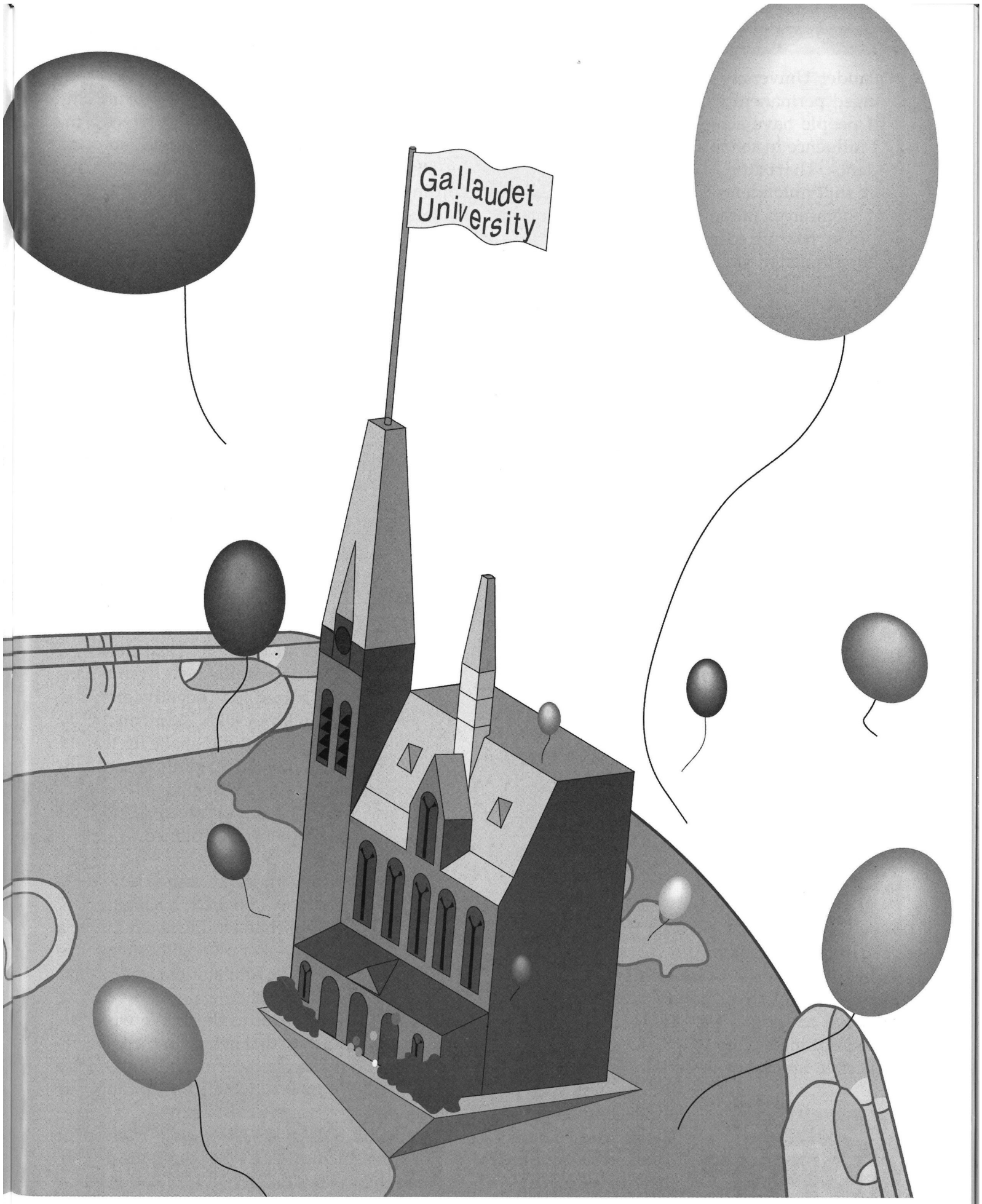
Ten years ago, Gallaudet University became the epicenter of a revolution: the "Deaf President Now" uprising. From March 6 to 13, 1988, events on and off the Kendall Green campus captured the world's attention. What started as a local campus protest against a university board of trustees rapidly escalated into a national, and international, civil-rights movement for deaf people. Events happened so quickly that even the leaders were astounded. Deaf people's concerns became the focus of prime-time and front-page coverage as they had had never done before. As they haven't been since.

The effect was electrifying. It was as though centuries of repressed emotions finally broke loose: anger at being excluded from decisions that affected them, frustration at being stonewalled by barriers of communication and attitude, refusal to endure any more oppression, demand for true representation and the power to guide their own destiny, an upsurge of pride, and hope for immediate change. DPN brought together deaf people, and hearing supporters, as nothing else had done for many years. It was a historic event, and its effects were far-reaching.

The immediate after-effects of DPN were felt on Capitol Hill. DPN provided a impetus for the appointment of Dr. Robert R. Davila as Assistant Secretary of OSERS in 1989—the highest government position ever held by a deaf person. DPN also provided a favorable political climate for the passage of the ADA in 1990, and gave impetus to the disability-rights movement. The Deaf community—and Gallaudet University—gained new visibility. At least momentarily.

Some effects were lasting.




Gallaudet
University

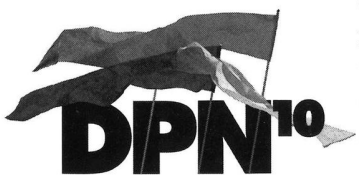
Gallaudet University's Board of Trustees was changed permanently, and for the better. More deaf people have achieved positions of power and influence in schools and programs for deaf students. (That battle, of course, is far from won.) More superintendents of schools for the deaf are deaf themselves (although a few have been replaced by hearing administrators).

Ten years later, we look back at a pivotal moment in Deaf history. What is the significance of DPN? For one thing, it marked the first time that deaf people, no matter what their communication mode or philosophy or status, came together to work towards a single goal: to show the world that deaf people were just as capable as hearing people. The Deaf community was, and remains, fragmented. Unity has proved elusive. Many of the same problems that plagued us before DPN continue to plague us.

It's a good time for reflection and re-assessment. What does DPN mean to me, and to you, and to all of us, and to young Deaf people? How has it shaped our current situation? Has its influence been steadily dwindling? What influence will it bear on the future? Was DPN a one-time manifestation of Deaf unity? Did it really empower Deaf people? Could we pull off a similar feat again? Have we made progress, or have we regressed somewhat? Can the spirit be rekindled?

Since DPN, we have gained much: the ADA, the Television Decoder Circuitry Act, more captioning, vastly improved telephone-relay services, emergency access, recognition of ASL in several states, more Deaf people studying, and participating in, politics and other "non-traditional" fields, a boost in our collective self-esteem.

But the spotlight fades quickly. Some gains have been fleeting. Gallaudet University hasn't been front-page material for years. The media has shown that it has a short memory. Witness cochlear-implant propaganda masquerading as objective coverage of a "medical miracle," the edited-out invisibility of ASL-Deaf persons, the invincible ignorance of certain news reporters, and the return of the much-loathed terms "deaf and dumb," "deaf-mute," and "hearing-impaired"—even in prestigious major newspapers. Some copywriters apparently believe that "hearing-impaired," not "deaf," is the politically correct term.



Ironically, many of the positive changes sparked by DPN have occurred outside Gallaudet. According to some deaf employees there, things at Gallaudet haven't been so rosy. There are complaints circulating through the community about increasing layoffs of deaf faculty and staff, the shrinking ratio of deaf to hearing faculty and staff, the declining enrollment and quality of students, the poor signing skills of many hearing faculty members, and the laughably low level of sign-language-competency requirements. The barriers of attitude are still there. Still.

Some things have changed; some things haven't changed at all. Some things have gotten worse. It's been business as usual in the oral/aural/mainstream movement. A number of medical and audiological professionals still have Dark Age attitudes towards deaf people. The well-funded campaign to give more deaf children cochlear implants and "keep them in the Hearing world" continues, ever expanding the number of "recruits." Discrimination against deaf people hasn't been wiped off the map. Deaf illiteracy, poor education, underemployment, crab theory (deaf-against-deaf hatred), and negative attitudes are still very much with us. DPN didn't magically rectify the injustices. But it did shake up the old order of things. It allowed us to glimpse possibilities: power, unity, a shared dream.

In a sense, we ended our enforced silence and found a voice. And the world listened.

DEAF LIFE's first monthly issue, July 1988, contained a cover story about Dr. I. King Jordan. In Fall 1991, we published Dr. Elisabeth Zinser's eye-opening account—her own DPN story. Five years ago, we asked the four student leaders and other key figures about their experiences during DPN and what it meant to them. We won't attempt to rehash any of that here. Our focus here is thinking about the short-term and long-range impact of DPN on our consciousness and our community.

Once again, **DEAF LIFE** invited a number of participants, including key players in the drama, to share their views on DPN's 10th anniversary.

★ In March 1988, a hearing candidate was appointed president of Gallaudet University. Concerned Gallaudet students, faculty, and staff demanded an explanation of the choice. Disappointment and frustration soon turned to action, and students blocked campus entrances and refused to attend classes. In the following week, the world witnessed a well-coordinated, nonviolent protest which culminated in the announcement of Gallaudet's first deaf president, Dr. I. King Jordan. **Deaf President Now** has come to symbolize the continuing struggle for equal rights and opportunities for deaf and disabled people everywhere. ★

IN 1988, WE TOLD THE WORLD

DEAF PEOPLE CAN DO ANYTHING, EXCEPT HEAR.

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Jimmie Dixon, a Gallaudet University senior majoring in mathematics and computer science, spent a summer as a National Science Foundation undergraduate research fellow at Duke University where he developed a world wide web-based interactive cardiovascular simulation. A hard-of-hearing student from Chicago, Illinois, he has also held internships at NASA and the Kresge Hearing Research Institute at the University of Michigan where he developed a computer-generated, three-dimensional image of part of the ear. Next year, he will begin graduate work in a special program at the University of Michigan where he will take classes to prepare for medical school.

DPN10

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Of the responses we got, we're publishing a few complete and several excerpts. We hope to feature the complete responses on our own "DPN page" in our Website.

We invite our readers to share their own DPN experiences, their views, and their hopes.

—The Editors

"Gallaudet got its president, but deaf people got their dignity and pride."

Brian Cerney, CI/CT
Associate Professor,
Community College of Allegheny Cty.

✏ *We're publishing this mini-interview with Brian Cerney along with with our questions. These are, more or less, what we asked everyone we contacted.*

What impact has DPN had on *your* life? On the lives of your family and friends?

For me it provided a memory that reminds me I can do anything I set my mind to. It also reinforced my belief that peaceful protest can indeed bring about positive results. For my children, I tell them stories of successful deaf people that I saw first-hand. It is my hope that as they become deaf adults, they can look back at DPN as a part of their history too.

How do you see your role in DPN as a major historical event for our community? Do you see it in the context of the general disability-rights movement? Why or why not?

The issue of disability rights has always been a bitter pill for the deaf community. Essentially we understand that deaf people are a cultural minority . . . and yet the only way the government provides what we consider basic rights is through the notion that the deaf community is somehow a disabled community. Internally, DPN had nothing to do with disability . . . it was purely cultural. But the media picked up on hearing status. . . in fact, they often made statements such as "Gallaudet students are protesting because of the selection of a non-deaf president. . ." Where did they come up with "non-deaf"? Sure, hearing status was a part of it, but only in its relation to cultural membership. Zinser was not "non-deaf" . . . she was hearing, physically and culturally.

The DPN Movement was a tremendous victory for deaf people everywhere. It is the single most significant event in the history of the deaf.

—
Bummy Burstein

Do you feel that DPN altered the media's perception of Deaf people? Why and why not? Major U.S. newspapers and news bureaus still routinely use expressions like "deaf and dumb," "deaf-mute," "hearing-impaired individuals," and "sign-language interpreter for the hearing impaired."

The media loves an event. With 24-hour news, DPN was a useful filler for the media . . . a story with a twist. As protesters we quickly learned to adapt to the media's needs. They needed sounds so we learned chants including the ever-famous "Deaf President Now." It might seem that we had always been screaming those words, but not on Sunday night, March 6th. Not until Monday the 7th did that phrase become the perpetual cheer for the cameras when they appeared. So we adapted to them and they adapted to us by obtaining interpreters for interviews, etc. The impact upon the media from that point forward, in my mind, is trivial. Only [a] few D.C. reporters really ever met deaf people and talked with them. The rest of the media, except for Ted Koppel, never really sat down and chatted with [a] deaf person . . . they never truly understood the story they

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were covering. So now we still see the awkward phrases of "deaf and dumb" or "deaf mute" scrolling along the bottom of our televisions because only a handful of reporters ever learned anything meaningful. The impact of the event went through the media, but didn't stick with them.

Do you feel that the campaign to get more deaf children fitted with cochlear implants is a "Hearing" backlash against the movement for Deaf civil rights? Why or why not?

Cochlear Implantation of deaf children is simply the use of technology to satisfy hearing parents' desire to know that they have done "everything possible" to fix their child. The physician is the one who makes the first diagnosis of deafness and so the parent simply becomes locked into the medical perspective. . . there is this surgery . . . it might help . . . What parent would refuse the possibility of something that would help? Implanting children is no organized scheme against the deaf community on any conscious level. It may in fact not pose much threat to the community because I see many kids with implants using sign language (ASL) with their peers and even their parents. It is a great price for the child to pay, but in many cases it represents the end of the treatment for the child's deafness and the beginning of the parent finally admitting that their child is deaf, even with the implant, and now is the time to learn how to communicate with their own kid!

Do you feel that, despite DPN, the medical establishment still sees deaf people in terms of pathology—as having defective equipment that needs "fixing"?

DPN had no effect on the medical profession, except for the fact that now with the ADA, doctors have to hire interpreters rather than depending on relatives of deaf patients. The cultural

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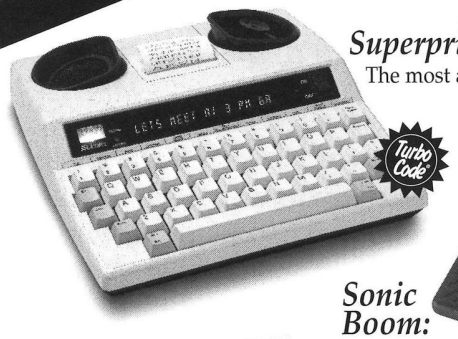

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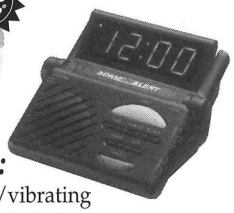

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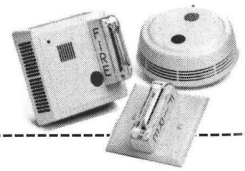

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to eventually develop videotapes and a CD-ROM for dissemination nationwide, consisting of a training package in bilingual/ESL instruction for teachers of deaf and hard-of-hearing children. Carla Fenner, Assistant Project Director, will oversee the dissemination of information and development of technology.

The use of technology is critical° to this project. We believe that teachers can use technology to become better teachers rather than using technology to teach. For this reason, the decision was made to purchase digital cameras for each teacher participating in the project, both at NMSD and TSD. The digital cameras will reinforce the use of ASL and English as part of language-experience stories. We will also purchase a videocamera for classroom use to (a) begin collecting language samples and assessing students' language and literacy levels, and (b) to provide discussion and feedback to teachers related to their use of bilingual/ESL approaches to instruction. Additionally, some computer equipment has been purchased for administrative purposes.

We feel it is important to share what we are doing with others in the field of deaf education. Information about the project was disseminated° over the Internet through the Deaf Administrators List Serve. An article was also submitted to the **NAD Broadcaster**. The response from schools throughout the U.S. and Europe has been astonishing. We've received numerous requests from administrators wanting to participate in the project or to have Nover become consultant to assist in the implementation of a similar project at their schools. While we cannot accommodate their requests at this time, this is a clear indication of the need for change in deaf education throughout the country.

Additionally, the **Albuquerque Journal**, a local newspaper, published an extensive article early January 1998 about NMSD's grant project and accomplishments to date.

All of the activities described above have taken place from October through December. So you can see that in a very short time, teachers and administrators at NMSD and TSD have jumped in with both feet and are working hard on this project to make significant changes in the area of literacy in deaf education.

For more information, contact Carla Fenner at ☎(505) 827-6743 or ❖cfen@nmsd.k12.nm.us.

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❖snover@nmsd.k12.nm.us (E-mail)

implementation: (*noun*) putting a plan or strategy into action.

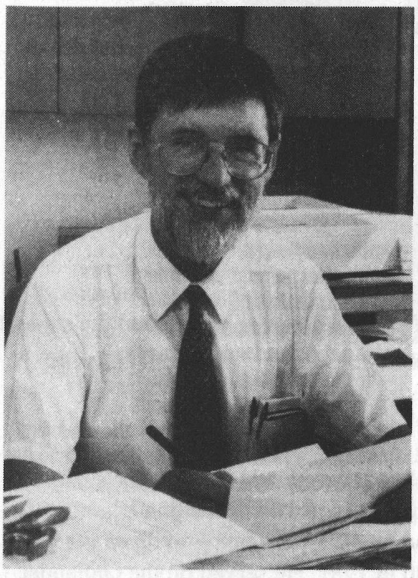
dissemination: (*noun*) distribution; spreading (here, of published or videotaped material).

critical: (*adjective*) here, vitally important.

disseminated: (*verb, past tense*) distributed; spread.

BESTOWING THE HONORS

Gallaudet University will award honorary doctorates during its 129th commencement exercises on May 15 to two internationally known leaders who have championed for the rights of deaf people throughout the world: Dr. **Yerker Andersson**, retired professor of sociology and founding chair of the Department of Deaf Studies at Gallaudet, and **Liisa Kauppinen** of Finland, General Secretariat of the World Federation of the Deaf. The commencement address will be given by **Greg Hlibok**, Class of 1989.



Dr. Yerker Andersson

Gallaudet is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Deaf President Now movement, a watershed event that occurred in March 1988 and led to the appointment of Gallaudet's first deaf president. Hlibok was the president of the Student Body Government at that time and served as a student leader of the movement. One of the highlights of that week was his appointment as ABC Person of the Week. He also appeared on the ***MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour*** and ***Nightline*** on March 9, 1988.

Greg Hlibok

Upon graduating from Gallaudet, he worked for a prestigious law firm, Milbank, Hadley, Tweed, and McCloy, as a legal assistant in the banking department, which led to his decision to enter Hofstra University School of Law. After receiving his J.D. in May 1994 and becoming a member of the American Bar Association and the New York County Bar Association, he

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

reasons for the protest were never truly conveyed through the media coverage.

On the plus side, do you feel that DPN directly or indirectly encouraged the community to mobilize for getting more accessible communication, ASL recognized as a language, the formation of Bi-Bi magnet schools, more Deaf teachers and superintendents? How? (DPN certainly assisted the passage of the ADA.)

This is the magic of DPN: it empowered the deaf community, world-wide. The rest of the world stayed the same, but the deaf people started to participate, on their own terms, with every activity in every level of society. This is why we must remind the future generations of deaf children what happened in March of 1988. This is why it was all worthwhile. Gallaudet got its president. But deaf people got their dignity and pride . . . in themselves, their language, their community, everything about them.

Gallaudet University is still the target of intense criticism by those who feel that there's too much emphasis on "Deaf power" and ASL and too little on literacy. Comments?

How can a University be held accountable for literacy? This has always seemed like the most ridiculous expectation. I taught remedial English at Gallaudet for two years. I saw students who were fluent in English taking my course because they had been lazy. They would pass the test easily at the end of the semester. I saw students who tried hard every day and failed the test every semester for six, seven, even eight semesters in a row. What was different about them? The ones who kept failing were not fluent in ANY language. They didn't know ASL, they didn't know English, they knew vocabulary, but vocabulary doesn't mean language. Research by Ted Supalla has shown that people who learn their first language later in life have reduced ability to compre-

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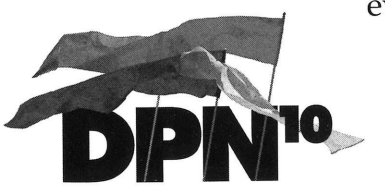
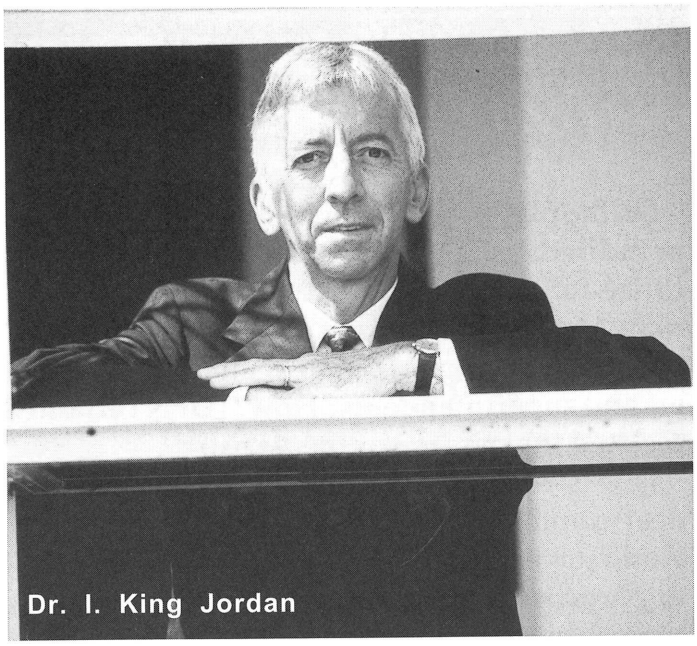
hend and produce that language. Gallaudet is the receiver of the problem. The problem begins with the parents of deaf children who face the challenge of having to learn a new language in time to be a model of that language for their children (nearly impossible) or hoping that technology will allow their child to understand the parents' language (a rare occurrence). So the child goes to school without a language. Then inconsistent models of language (ASL and/or English) are presented so that the child graduates high school and has yet to become fluent in any language. It is too late. The human mind simply cannot recover [from] this kind of linguistic abuse. Gallaudet has never ignored this problem, but is essentially powerless to change the cycle. It must begin with language (ANY language, but it must be a true and accessible language) in the home.

DPN showed what deaf people-ASL-Deaf, oral, hard-of-hearing-can do when united for a common cause. Is there less evidence of unity in today's Deaf/deaf community? Have we become complacent? Are things "too comfortable" for us? Why or why not?

DPN was the issue for bringing all of the deaf community together because it was not an issue of communication preference, but identity. The remaining issue I see to keep the deaf community working together is increased and improved captioning since that still does not enter the depths of oral *vs.* manual. But DPN didn't happen because the board chose the wrong person to be president. DPN happened because the Rally on March 1st taught a thousand people *why* Elisabeth Zinser would be the wrong choice. Education about the issue made all the difference. There has been no similar organized education about any other issue impacting the deaf community. The closest at a national level would be the protests [against] ***Calendar Girl*** (the movie produced by Penny Marshall with a hearing actor playing a deaf character).

Thank you for the opportunity to relive the events!




Dr. I. King Jordan

"Our goal is to keep the spirit and promise of DPN alive"

Dr. I. King Jordan
President, Gallaudet University

The impact of DPN

DPN's impact on Gallaudet was—and continues to be—monumental. What began as a straightforward campaign to give the presidency of the University to a deaf person, broadened into a civil-rights movement that earned the support of millions of deaf and hearing people alike, including U.S. Senators and Representatives, as well as influential business and civic leaders around the world. Gallaudet built on that initial outpouring of solidarity and global visibility, so that today our University is stronger than ever and is a symbol to the world of the great things deaf people can accomplish when provided with fair access and equal opportunities.

DPN's impact on heating people was also enormous. While deaf people have always known they could do the same things hearing people do, most hearing people thought otherwise. Until DPN, that is. The events at Gallaudet during March 1988 raised the consciousness of hearing people and, I believe, forever changed how they think about and behave toward deaf people. I also believe that this new awareness on the part of bearing people was instrumental in getting the

Americans with Disabilities Act passed shortly following Gallaudet's DPN protest. It forced hearing lawmakers, employers, educators, and others to focus on what deaf people and those with disabilities could do, rather than what they could not do.

It goes without saying that DPN brought about a sea change for me and my family. It's one thing to go from being a college dean to a college president—that happens all the time. But as we all know, becoming Gallaudet's first deaf president carried much more significance than that. I have always maintained that DPN was never about I. King Jordan. It was never about *which* deaf person became president, but that *a* deaf person be president. I just happened to be in the right place at the right time. Because of this, I am very conscious that as president of Gallaudet, I represent more than myself—or even the University, for that matter—when I testify before Congress, give a speech at a business banquet, meet with alumni, or chat with young deaf children visiting Gallaudet. This "hero role" is not something I anticipated when I became president; nor is it one that I'm especially comfortable with. But I realize that it's part of the job of being the first deaf person to lead Gallaudet and I try my best to do it well.

It's hard to gauge DPN's impact on the media, although I'm sure it changed many of the assumptions about deaf people held by reporters and editors. I've invited a number of the reporters who closely covered DPN back to campus on February 26 to share with students, faculty and staff their views on how the media influenced DPN and how DPN changed the media's perceptions of us. It should be a most interesting discussion. Overall I think the media is more sensitive and more informed today than before DPN about how it covers deafness-related issues. DPN sparked a keen interest among hearing people in Deaf Culture, especially American Sign Language, and the media has reported to that interest with more coverage, most of it positive.

All of these highly successful deaf people did not get their jobs solely because they are deaf. There is no such thing as deafness alone being a qualification for anything. It takes hard work, sacrifice, struggle, and empowerment.

—Frank R. Turk

Divisions Within the Deaf Community: ASL-Deaf, oral, hard-of-hearing

Everyone agrees that DPN would have failed had not deaf people put aside their differences and united around a common goal. Here at Gallaudet we are working hard to maintain that sense of all-for-on-one-for-all, although I admit that at times it is a real challenge. Of course there will always be affinity groups, that is, individuals who bond together because they share similar backgrounds and experiences. And this is as it should be. But when groups become exclusive and convey a sense that people outside that group are in some way unacceptable, real problems occur.

Our common goal today is to keep the spirit and promise of DPN alive for future generations of Gallaudet students. To accomplish this we must develop the same sense of unity that we had in March 1988.

Gallaudet operates on the philosophy that diversity is something to be embraced, not merely tolerated. Our University celebrates the rich mixture of its student body, which includes not only students from different countries and races, but also those who were reared in culturally deaf environments or who may be the only deaf members of their families and attended mainstream elementary and high schools. In addition, the Gallaudet community includes students who are hard-of-hearing, who have cochlear implants, who use hearing aids, as well as those who don't use hearing aids. None of these groups is "more Gallaudet" than the other. They are all Gallaudet. It is only by working together that we can insure a bright future for the world's only university for deaf end hard-of-hearing students.

The Impact of Technology on the Deaf Community

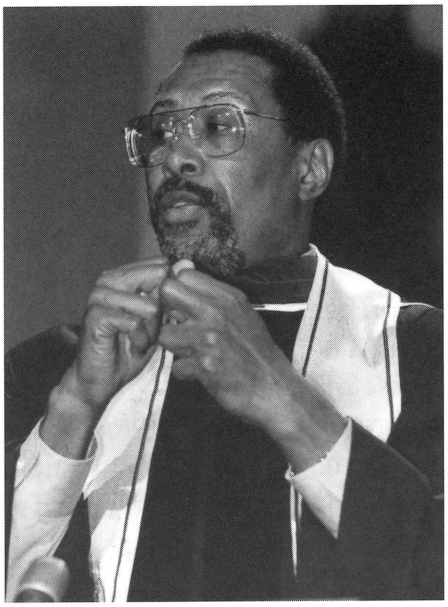
I think most deaf people agree that advances in technology have, on balance, improved the quality of our lives. Computer technology alone has leveled the playing field to a great extent for deaf people in the workplace. Imagine, today I carry around a pager that allows me to send E-mail messages to peoples' computers, as well as receive E-mail from others.

The Future

As we begin the celebration of DPN's tenth anniversary, I am more convinced than ever that Gallaudet will continue to provide deaf and hard-of-hearing students with the same top-quality, complete educational experience that it has been providing for the past 135 years.

Sometimes hearing people ask me why Gallaudet is necessary today since the ADA guarantees deaf and hard-of-hearing students equal access and accommodation at any university. To help them understand, I ask them to imagine what it would be like for a hearing person attending a university in, say, China. He can't speak Chinese, so an interpreter accompanies him to class, but leaves the moment it's over. As the other students chat and joke amongst themselves, the lone non-Chinese speaker leaves the classroom and goes home or to the library to study—alone. Because he can't communicate with the other students or his professors, and they can't communicate with him, his so-called "college experience" is limited to the official class time. No extracurricular activities, no socializing, no networking. By this time, the hearing person usually gets the point of my analogy.

Gallaudet, on the other hand, offers students not only all the necessary academic options, but also the many other elements that comprise a complete college experience. At Gallaudet, a deaf person is president of the student body, captain of the basketball team, and stars in every play. Students communicate directly with their professors and one another, they develop strong self-confidence and perform well in off-campus internships and practicums. In other words, at Gallaudet they get it all.



Dr. Glenn Anderson

How DPN opened the doors

Glenn B. Anderson
University of Arkansas;
Chairman of the Gallaudet University Board of Trustees
(from a 1995 speech)

By law, the Gallaudet University board has 21 members. Three members are appointed by Congress and 18 are elected by the board. Before DPN, there were 4 deaf members on the board. Why only 4 deaf board members? Because that was how the by-laws were written before DPN. According to the by-laws, up to 4 deaf persons could be elected to the board. About one year before DPN, a motion was discussed to increase the number of deaf members to five. The motion did not pass.

Many of you may remember a popular quote made by a deaf professor at Gallaudet shortly after DPN.* He said, "God made the world in 7 days and deaf people changed the world in 7 days." In the 7 years since DPN, the board has changed, too. It took 124 years before the board elected the first deaf chairperson, Phil Bravin. In the 7 years since DPN, two deaf alumni of Gallaudet have been elected to serve as board chair. Also, since DPN, nine new members have been appointed to the board. Eight are deaf and one is hard-of-hearing. Three of the nine new deaf members are persons of color and two are women.† Our desire is for the board to reflect the students and constituencies served by Gallaudet.

The board has also experienced a change in the balance of power. The balance of power has changed from a hearing majority to a deaf major-

ity. This change in the balance of power is supported by all members of the board, both deaf and hearing. One clear example of how the balance of power has changed can be noticed by the way interpreters are used in board meetings. Before DPN, interpreters were hired to interpret for the deaf members of the board. Now the board must hire interpreters to interpret for the hearing board members.

A second example of how the balance of power has changed can be noticed by looking at leadership on the board. All of the officers of the board—the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary—are deaf. Five of our seven board committee chairpersons are deaf or hard-of-hearing. Before DPN, the leadership and governance role of the board was different. Most board members were not closely involved with the Gallaudet community or the diversity of issues unique to the higher education of deaf students.

In the 7 years since DPN, the leadership role of the board has changed. Probably one of the easiest examples I can use to illustrate how the leadership role of the board has changed is to describe the size of our board meeting agenda books before and after DPN. The board-meeting agenda books include all the board and committee meeting agendas, relevant background materials, and reports. Before DPN, the board-meeting agenda books were light and could easily fit into a briefcase. Now, the board-meeting agenda books are thick and heavy. They do not fit into a briefcase very well anymore. The size of the board meeting agenda books symbolizes how the board's leadership role and responsibilities have increased since DPN. None of the changes on the board would have occurred without DPN.

We all owe a lot to DPN and its student leaders. The success of DPN helped open up many new opportunities and experiences that many cleat people probably never dreamed ware possible before DPN. If it were not for the success of DPN, I doubt I would have been invited to join the board in 1989 and later experienced the honor of being the second deaf person elected chair.

The week of March 6 through 13 will always be a special week for Deaf communities all over America. During that historic week of March 6-13, 1988, we learned a lot about leadership and empowerment. We learned that when we have the right "cause" and when we intelligently organize and effectively advocate for that right "cause," we can win and change things to benefit our community. What makes it possible to have the right cause" and to win and change things to benefit our community?

First, there has to be a sense of hope. We have to believe that the change we want to make is the right thing to do. DPN was clearly a right "cause" because it was perceived as an issue of civil rights for Deaf people. Also, DPN had a theme that demonstrated a sense of hope. It was a theme that many people both on and off-campus supported: "We want our Deaf President Now!"

Second, the climate and time for making the change has to be right. Change does not easily occur if many people do not agree about the need for change. By 1988, the climate for supporting DPN was right. America had reached a time in history when many more people were aware that Deaf people were very successful as leaders, writers, actors, scholars, lawyers, doctors, and so on. Also, one year before DPN, many people wrote letters and advocated for a Deaf President. So, the climate and time was right because when DPN occurred, there was both national and international support from the Deaf community, the media, and many political leaders for the appointment of a Deaf person to lead Gallaudet.

Third, people who want to influence change must be prepared and organized to make change happen. DPN was the most successful college-student protest in American history. The success of DPN is clear evidence that the students were well-prepared and organized. The students demonstrated maturity, confidence, and coolness in high-pressure situations. I was truly impressed with how the students handled the media and the press conferences. The students handled that kind of pressure better than I would have if DPN had happened during my college days.

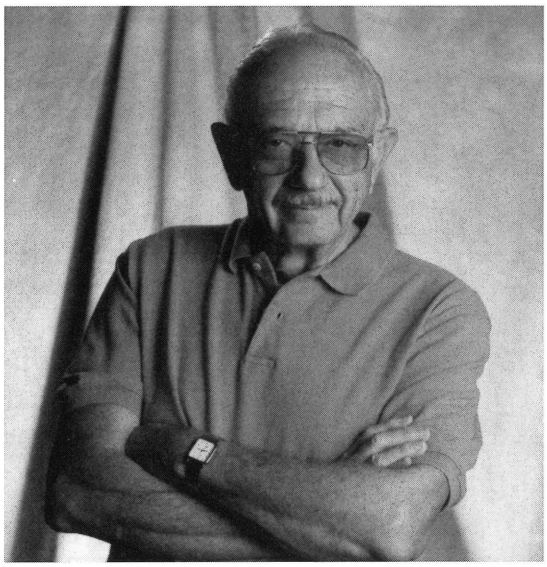
* Charles Giansanti.

† As of Spring 1995.

"Tremendous impact—but a long way to go"

Gerald "Bummy" Burstein
Registered Parliamentarian, NAP Certified
Professional Parliamentarian, AIP

I believe I as a president of GUAA, had a large part in the DPN movement before the protest began. When we learned that Dr. [Jerry] Lee had handed in his resignation, I immediately contacted Jack Gannon, then Executive Director of GUAA, to send letters to Larry Newman, president of NAD, and Robert Anderson, president of NFSD, to suggest that we three national organizations get together to endorse and support strong candidates for the presidency of Gallaudet University. We came up with a few names. One name was I. King Jordan. A telegram was sent to the Board of Trustees.[1]



Gerald "Bummy" Burstein

When I learned that the Board of Trustees selected [Dr.] Zinser, I made the statement that Board members who lack confidence in the abilities of deaf persons have no business serving on the Board of Trustees and should resign.[2]

When the protest began on Sunday night, I got TTY and voice calls all day Monday asking me to come to Gallaudet. Finally, I took the red-eye flight and arrived at Gallaudet on Tuesday morning. I was impressed with the spirit of the students and all the media coverage. I immediately called a meeting of local GUAA Board members to vote in favor of the students and their four demands. We were the first organization to contribute $1,000 to the DPN Fund. After the meeting, Jack [Gannon] and I went to see Catherine Ingold, Provost, and told her that GUAA supported the selection of a deaf President. I was interviewed by many reporters. Later I went to the auditorium—standing room only—really packed. Then I was escorted to the stage and announced the GUAA Board decision. The audience stood up with a loud cheer and gave "Deaf Applause," which made me think I was in France for a moment. After a hectic day, I flew back home that night.

Absolutely, it did make a great impact world-wide. It had a strong influence on the public, which was not well aware of the deaf. For instance, I sent in my application to the California Public Utilities Commission to serve on a committee. They selected a well-known hearing person instead. With the result of the DPN protest, he backed out and I was asked to serve, which I did for 10 years. I know a couple of deaf people who got promotions thanks to the DPN movement.

It may be difficult for hearing people to understand, but for a very long time deaf people have been suppressed. From the time they were born, they were made to feel inferior. Psychologically, it is very difficult for a deaf person to rebel against authority (hearing).

The DPN Movement was a tremendous victory for deaf people everywhere. It is the single most significant event in the history of the deaf. This single event has given the deaf community a psychological uplift the likes of which it has never before experienced, along with a tremendous boost of self-confidence that is bound to have a profound effect on the cause for independence among deaf people.

As for today, it seems that no one, except for those involved, remembers it. Perhaps the novelty wore off. I teach a Deaf Culture class at a junior college in Riverside. I have 40 hearing students and one deaf student. Many of them are not young students. Practically no one remembers the DPN. I showed them a video of the DPN movement. It hit them hard. (I believe that the DPN impact is stronger on the East Coast as opposed to the West Coast.)

That movement, I strongly believe, had influ-

ence on the passing of the ADA. One example is that the California Public Utilities Commission just passed a decision to provide TTY payphones in the state. It is now in the process of implementing the program. My name was recommended to serve on the subcommittee.

I hope that the planned march from Gallaudet University to the Capitol Hill in March will serve as a reminder of the effort made by many to advance the cause of the deaf and of the international effects that need to be continuously reinforced with attention and diligence.

To sum it up, yes, the DPN Movement has had a tremendous impact, but we still have far to go. We must keep on educating the public. It is not an easy task. We are the minority of the minority.

[1] Please refer to pages 22, 23 and 70 in **The Week the World Heard Gallaudet** for more info on my part.—B.B.

[2] **DEAF LIFE**, March 1993, page 14.—B.B.

Breaking the "glass ceiling"

Dr. Robert R. Davila
RIT Vice President for NTID

During the DPN protest, I was the only senior officer of the University who had unrestricted egress to the campus. Because I was living on campus at the time and the other senior officers and board members had established an "operations center" in the offices of a public-relations firm in downtown Washington,* I had a free run of the campus and campus security was instructed to drive me to and from meetings downtown which I was required to attend. Because I was reporting directly to the board chairperson at that time as a member of the university's management committee, I was not permitted to participate in the protest activities. However, I attended all of the meetings and observed the events taking place on campus and on the streets adjacent to the entrances. It was an exhilarating experience, but it was also somewhat surrealistic, because everyone except the board of trustees had known that the protest was coming. It was not a surprise for many. Words of warning which many, including myself, had conveyed to the President and the Board of Trustees were ignored. And so the protest came.

Dr. Robert R. Davila

Well, DPN is now history and you ask, "What impact has DPN had on your life and that of your family and friends?" Frankly, much of it has been positive. I think it has been the same for my family and friends. DPN's greatest contributions were in creating needed attention and resolution to the pent-up frustration of the deaf community over not being consulted and involved in matters critical to them. Overnight, it seems, the public learned much about deaf persons and about their quest for a stronger voice in determining their destinies. This event did much to promote increased collaboration with other groups, especially groups representing persons with other disabilities. It was a catalytic° event that bonded the disability community and which empowered all of us to work together to achieve mutual goals. The ADA is an example of an outcome that was forged, in part, by the gung-ho° spirit that was created on the sidewalks of Florida Avenue.

More personally, a year after DPN, I was nominated by President Bush and confirmed by the U. S. Senate to the position of Assistant Secretary for Spe-

I would hope that the celebration in 1998 will commemorate not only the catalytic event that DPN was, but that it will also provide impetus to continue the struggle for equality and opportunity. This would be the finest legacy DPN could create for future generations.

—
Robert R. Davila

cial Education and Rehabilitative Services, the first person with a disability ever to hold this post. I sense that DPN must have influenced the President's recruiters to seek a deaf person. I also believe my appointment broke the "glass ceiling" for persons with disabilities relative to this and other high-level posts in government service. I really think a person with a disability will always be appointed to this post in the future. My hope is that another deaf person may be appointed. It does less good for someone to blaze a trail if there is no one to follow.

DPN was also an important turning point in my career. I had been a candidate for President of Gallaudet, but I was the first of the five finalists to be eliminated from contention although I had had 20 years of increasingly more responsible administrative experience. I decided then and there that my future had to be elsewhere. As a life-long and active Republican, I had been asked in 1980 by President Reagan's staff to consider a position in his administration. I had not been interested then, but when I was contacted by President Bush's recruiters soon after DPN, I decided to pursue opportunities. Of course, the rest is history. I believe that I served with honor and distinction and I am proud of that. I was able to demonstrate that deaf persons are capable and able to assume large responsibilities.

The question to ask these days is, "Are we better off today than we were before DPN?" The answer is a qualified "yes." Affirmative because there have been positive gains as evidenced by new training and employment opportunities for deaf persons, increased public awareness of deafness and the forging of collaborative partnerships between the deaf community and other communities of persons with disabilities. However, I qualify it because, in my opinion, there haven't been enough gains. Gains in industry, business, and commerce have been fewer and are accessible only to those who have the training, knowledge, competencies, and communication skills in English that can meet the demanding employment entrance qualifications. The National Technical Institute for the Deaf and the Rochester Institute of Technology have experienced a resurgence of vitality in their efforts to open doors to heretofore restricted or limited occupations and the results have very encouraging. This success has to be tempered by the fact that NTID/RIT serves only about 1,100 young deaf men and women out of tens of thousands or more who need quality transitional services and training to prepare for adulthood.

Yes, DPN ten years later gives us all cause to pause and rejoice at memories of a historical breakthrough. There is a reason to look back with satisfaction at progress made. But it has been difficult to sustain the momentum created by this event. I would hope that the celebration in 1998 will commemorate not only the catalytic event that DPN was, but that it will also provide impetus to continue the struggle for equality and opportunity. This would be the finest legacy DPN could create for future generations.

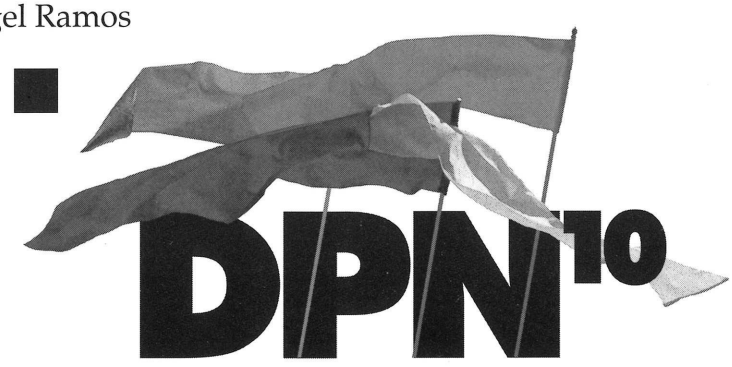
What we need is for our successful, upper-echelon Deaf folks who are now in high positions, thanks to DPN, to get together and e stablish such a fund to wage a campaign against the cochlear-implant movement.

—Angel Ramos

*Peabody Fitzpatrick Communication.

gung-ho: (adjective) dedicated, loyal, and enthusiastic.

catalytic: (adjective) acting as a catalyst, literally, a chemical that starts or sets off a reaction. The noun form is *catalyst*.



"Change starts and ends with us"

Angel Ramos
Instructor in Mathematics and ASL,
Townview High School, Dallas
ASL Teacher, Collin County
Community College

What history teaches us is that we should not stereotype hearing people, just like we should not stereotype Black people, or Hispanic people, or women. The hearing community can be separated into two groups—people who treat Deaf individuals with respect and as equals, whom I like to call "21st Century" people—and then there is a second group of hearing people who are still living in the 19th century, when deaf people needed services and needed to be taken care of. Unfortunately, many of the people who work with deaf individuals and who are "19th Century" folks are entrenched in their positions. Our job is to help these 19th-century folks be replaced by 21st-century folks.

We also need to realize that it is not some just hearing people who are still living in the 19th century, but some Deaf people as well. A few years ago I was organizing a protest against the Dallas Public Schools because they refused to give a Deaf Hispanic child a qualified interpreter, and the reaction of some of the Deaf folks was that the parents should move to Austin and go to the Deaf school in Austin because "that is what my parents did." Maybe years ago that is what we did, but it shouldn't be that way anymore. We need to start expecting equal rights to that of hearing people.

If DPN taught me anything, it is how to be successful. What I learned from DPN and the past 10 years is that there are six ingredients for success: (1) we need to get members of the majority (hearing) group to support our cause, (2) we need to work together as one powerful group, (3) we need money, (4) the cause has to be led by youth, (5) we need to get the media involved, and (6) we need goals.

Let me elaborate. First, we need to get members of the hearing community to support us. We can fight against these 19th-century folks all we want, but if we don't have 21st-century hearing folks helping us we won't win. The good news is that there are plenty of 21st-century hearing folks out there. An excellent example in Texas was Dr. Dorothy Bennett, former Director of Special Education. With her assistance the Deaf community in Dallas was able to bring up many problems within the Deaf Education Program into the forefront. Unfortunately, Dr. Bennett left her position before she could clean it up and the people responsible for the mismanagement of the education of the Deaf program are still there. In time, however, I firmly believe that these 19th-century folks will be displaced, one way or another, with the help of 21st-century hearing people. And there are many, many 21st century hearing folks out there—we need to find them and work with them to get rid of these 19th-century folks.

The medical establishment is full of 19th-century folks. Their only contact with deaf people is when the deaf person needs help, and as a result they have this perception that deaf people are dependent, depressed, deaf folks. I remember this workshop I went to on cochlear implants and the head doctor was telling the audience how depressed and dependent Deaf people were because they couldn't hear. I stood up and looked at the audience and asked, "Do I look depressed and dependent?!!!" Fortunately, I've worked around so many good hearing people, 21st-century folks, that I know many of these doctors are anomalies.°

Secondly, we need to work together. That is how DPN was won, that is how the Deaf Bill of Rights was passed in Texas, that is how the Texas Assistive Services bill, which will allow Deaf individuals and those with special telephone needs to purchase a TTY or other assistive device for $35, was won. We all worked together. When we don't work together, it leads to failure. We need to stop fighting each other and think of the cause, the goal, and not personal agendas. The past squabbles between the Texas Association of the Deaf and the Texas Deaf Caucus is an excellent example of how NOT to be successful. Today, with new leadership at the helm of both TAD and TDC, both organizations are working together successfully.

Third, we need money. Everything revolves around money. Money definitely helped make DPN successful, such as the money that Mr. John

Yeh contributed to pay for the flyers, buttons, and other materials for the initial rally, to the $20,000 that was raised that one week that covered the cost of materials for the media, speakers, posters, banners, supplies, etc. My biggest regret with DPN is that the thousands of dollars that was left after the protest ended and the money from the videotapes did not go back to the Deaf community. I'm sure that those Deaf people fighting all across the country for their rights could use some of that money. The cochlear-implant movement is an excellent example of where we need money to wage a good fight. If we had the money we could wage an excellent campaign against the cochlear-implant movement. Where is the money to lead such a media campaign? What we need is for our successful, upper-echelon° Deaf folks who are now in high positions, thanks to DPN, to get together and establish such a fund. Can you imagine if a coalition of 40, 50, 100 successful, respected Deaf folks got together—Phil Bravin, Glenn Anderson, King Jordan, Marlee Matlin, Matthew Moore, John Yeh, David Birnbaum, Robert Davila—and said "We are gonna set up a fund" and help clean up this mess?! Just the thought of this excites me. I can tell you that we would easily raise $100,000 or more and start changing people's perceptions.

Fourth, it was youth that made DPN succeed, and it is youth that will lead to other successes. During DPN, many Deaf adults refused to join the protest because they were worried about their jobs, their paychecks, their promotions. Many Deaf folks joined later, when the DPN movement caught full steam. We have many more Deaf people today in the upper echelons of business, education, social services, and I have met many who are filled with rage about things that are happening in the community, but you will rarely see these Deaf individuals speak out. And you can't blame them. To speak out means losing their job or future promotion. The barriers I face toward upward mobility as a result of my being an outspoken advocate for my rights and those in our Deaf community is a good example of why most Deaf adults don't want to get involved. You can't really blame Deaf adults for refusing to get involved for fear of reprisals—that is why we need youth. They aren't worried about where their next paycheck is going to come from, or their promotion, or their children, or their reputations. We have to train and support our youth to make the changes that we are unable to get involved with.

Fifth, we need to learn how to use the media for our benefit, to use it and educate the hearing community. And lastly, we need goals. We had four goals during DPN, and everyone focused on those goals. We need, as a group, to identify one or two goals, with a timeline and a plan of action and get it done. We can do it. We have lots of 21st-century hearing people out there who will support us, lots of Deaf and hearing people who can work together, lots of young people who will act, a lot of media that will pay attention—we just need money and a group of Deaf leaders, even silent leaders, to organize and give credibility to the next battle.

As for looking toward Gallaudet as our agent of change, I believe we are looking in the wrong direction. We cannot depend on Gallaudet to lead the fight for change. Gallaudet has rarely taken the lead to make changes, and we need to remember that the Deaf community had to force Gallaudet to change its 19th-century philosophy with the DPN protest. No, change starts and ends with us—you and me. Gallaudet is a tool for change; it can help us make change, but it cannot take the lead—we have to do that. The responsibility falls squarely on our shoulders.

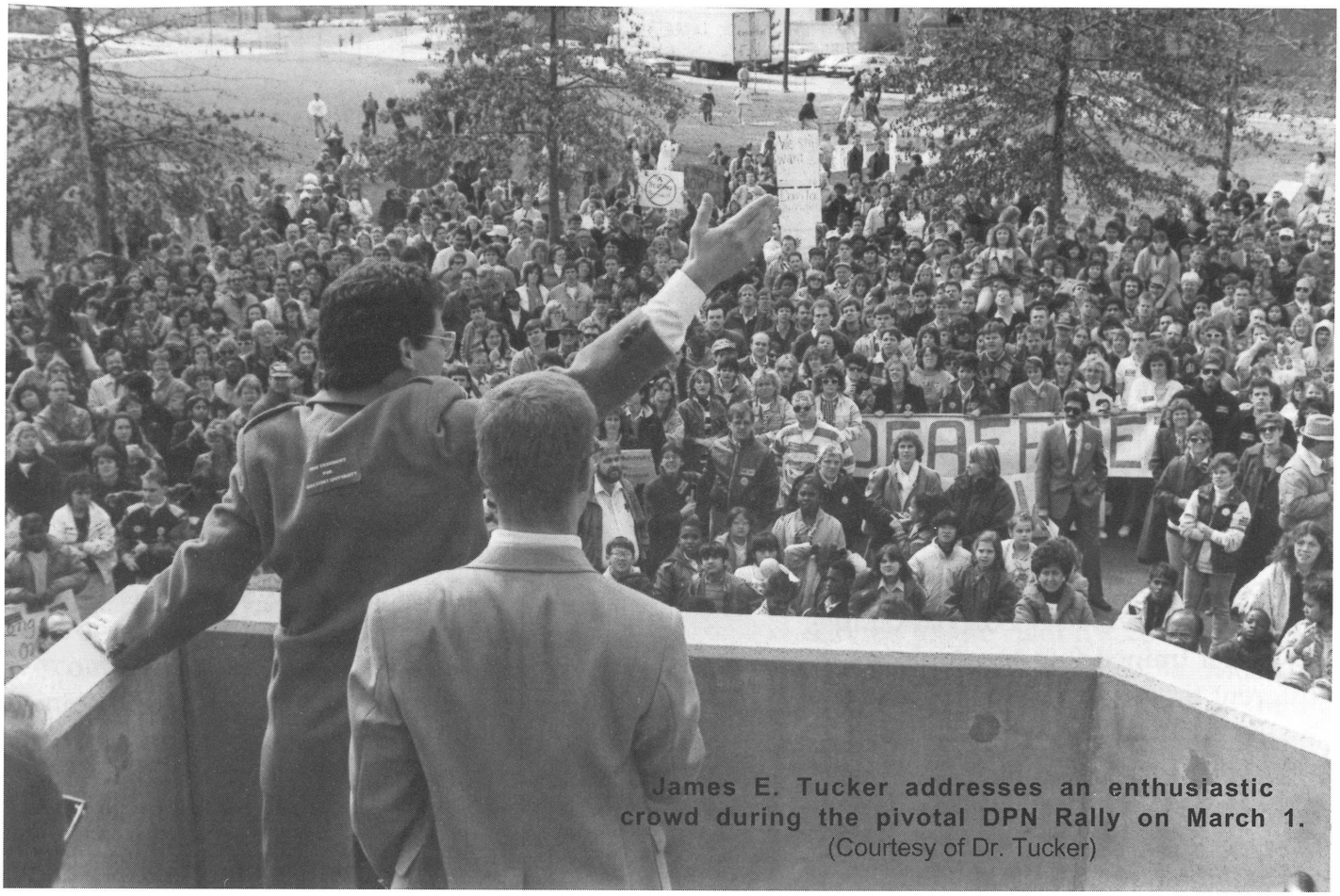
anomalies: (noun) an exception to the norm; deviation; an unusual and peculiar case.

upper-echelon: (noun used as adjective) high-ranking; having authority; in prominent positions in the community.

The *real* point of DPN

Dr. Allen E. Sussman
Professor of Counseling,
Gallaudet University

Nope, it would have been WRONG to have Zinser as president although she probably would have been a good president. The point being missed is that it was necessary to show the world that a deaf person is qualified to be president of an



James E. Tucker addresses an enthusiastic crowd during the pivotal DPN Rally on March 1. (Courtesy of Dr. Tucker)

institution of higher learning, even for symbolic reasons. That is the most important thing about DPN. Not only that, Jordan has proved that a deaf person can deal with Congress, be politically astute, etc., which he has more than amply demonstrated.

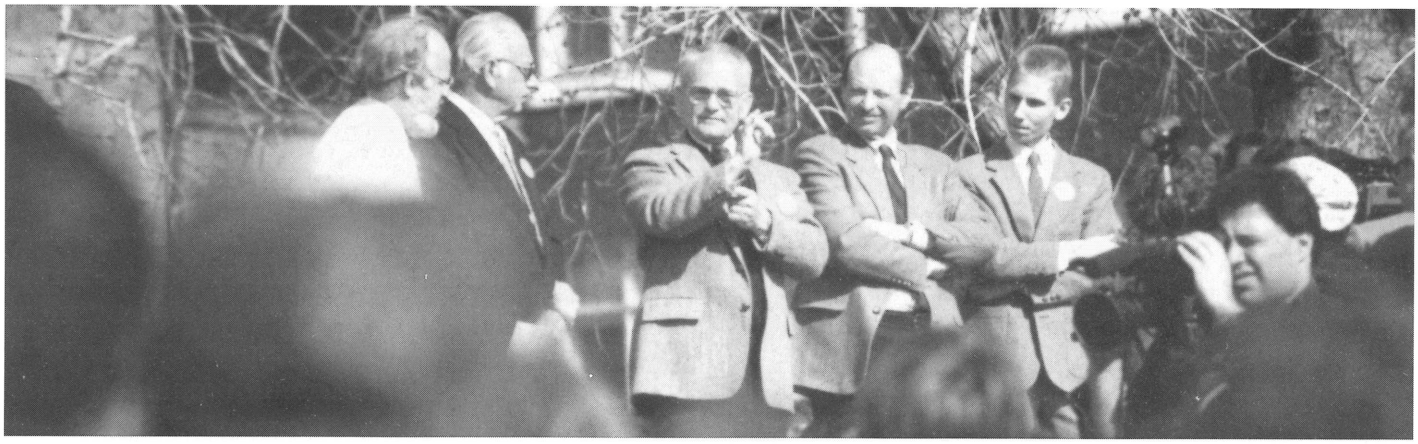
It is not true that the faculty were coerced in[to] supporting a deaf president. Maybe at first they were dubious and lukewarm. But at a special general faculty meeting (at which I was elected to be DPN fac rep) the fac voted 176-5 to support I. King Jordan, after which I faced a battery of TV cameras and the media horde in front of Florida Avenue, and gave my speech *re* Gallaudet faculty solidly behind Jordan and the students and their conditions and in the process uttered [my] "Plantation Mentality" statement. Coerced is hardly the word. I believe that it took a few Cicero- or Demosthenes-types of oratory that inspired and/or changed the convictions of some faculty who were originally inclined toward Zinser because of the doubts they'd had about the potentialities of deaf people in the first place, Of course there were some faculty who "stayed home. The faculty involved in the vote represented approx. 75% of the tenured and tenure-track faculty at the time.

"A defining moment"

James E. Tucker
Superintendent,
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Yes, DPN was a defining moment in the history of Deaf America. The protest catapulted a Deaf person to [the] Gallaudet presidency for the first time, and gave much-needed momentum to the eventual passage of ADA. It also impacted thousands of individuals, who have experienced increased participation in the workplace, community life, and in the American Society. Perhaps the most important impact is the fact that it has instilled fearlessness in us, especially in Deaf children.

Yes, DPN was in many ways a moment of catharsis° for the American Deaf Community. Anger and frustration from generations of oppression of Deaf people were unleashed during



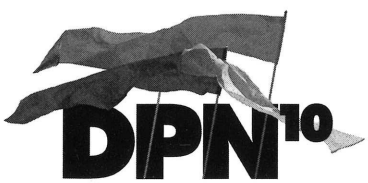
Demanding an end the "plantation mentality:" On Tuesday, March 8, a rally was held in front of Chapel Hall, featuring some key figures (and speeches) in the protest. Left to right: Gary Olsen, "Bummy" Burstein, Frank Turk, Allen Sussman, and Greg Hlibok. (Courtesy of Dr. Turk)

DPN. I for one saw how my Deaf parents were discriminated [against] so many times during my childhood. For example, my father trained four co-employees at different times who were younger and less experienced than him, and then later each one of them became his supervisor. DPN was "enough is enough" for many of us.

Yes, DPN definitely opened many doors for Deaf people to high-level administrative positions. Without DPN, I would not be a superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf today.

DPN is never going to be a "cure-all" for the American society's collective ignorance of Deaf people and their lives. This is why we must always celebrate DPN, Deaf History Months, and Deaf Awareness Weeks to remind everyone that Deaf people have contributed so much to the American Society, and have productive lives like everyone else. Kudos to Gallaudet University for hosting this mega-event, DPN 10!

catharsis: (noun) a purifying or symbolic cleansing of the emotions; purging of pent-up emotions; bringing repressed feelings to consciousness and working them out.



"The war was won through partnership"

Dr. Frank R. Turk
Special Assistant for Development,
National Association of the Deaf

The week of March 6-13, 1988 proved convincingly that deaf people could band together effectively for a common cause and succeed—if and when they do so in integration, collaboration, partnership, and reciprocity with hard-of-hearing and normal-hearing people. The "Deaf President Now" protest experience taught us the need and value of being assertive, creative, tactful, and specific in promulgating the needs and interests unique to ourselves to the significantly greater population outside of Deaf America. Simply put, the DPN was not won by Deaf America alone. More exactly and accurately, the war was won through integration, collaboration, partnership, and reciprocity with the non-deaf population of the United States of America. In final analysis, all Americans, deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing alike, were winners in this historic disability-rights movement.

My assigned role during the week was that of guiding and advising on the management and operation of the activities as a member of the DPN Council composed of sixteen people from various constituencies. I represented the Pre-College (Model Secondary School for the Deaf and Kendall Demonstration Elementary School) group. The DPN Council was the official source of authority throughout the campus that week, virtually taking over the university, and all decisions for the week-long activities were made therein. In keeping with the very reason for the existence of the university, the four student leaders were

shouldered with the responsibility of carrying out the instructions of the Council, internally and externally, and they all did a fabulous job of it. They were particularly outstanding in pulling the crowd together to stay together all week, characterized by warmth, cooperative spirit, and positive expectations *sans* violence and damages—not even one incident! This in itself contributed much to the overall success of "the week the world heard Gallaudet."

Contrary to the thinking of some people, I personally feel that Deaf America today is still reaping the rewards of the Disability Rights of 1988. In certain places, we are succeeding as never before and we are succeeding because we continue to subscribe to the concept of integration, collaboration, partnership, and reciprocity in our upward-mobility business, individually and collectively. Dr. Robert Davila did us proud during his tenure as the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, the highest Government position ever held by a deaf person. Immediately after expiration of the Bush Administration, he became the first deaf headmaster of the New York School for the Deaf in White Plains [Fanwood], and is currently serving as the first deaf Vice President of Rochester Institute of Technology for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Dr. I. King Jordan is in his tenth year as the most successful president of Gallaudet University—no one can argue with his success in elevating the University's endowment fund from $4 million in 1988 to today's cool $100 million!

Herbert Larson continues to be a premier success story with high-quality students at California State University at Northridge, the persistent budgetary constraints notwithstanding. Dr. Roslyn Rosen has enhanced to an appreciable extent her role at Gallaudet, as have several others. As of today, we have a total of 16 deaf superintendents of schools for the deaf, the most ever in history, and the number of deaf people in managerial positions across the country is on the rise.

Dr. I. King Jordan is in his tenth year as the most successful president of Gallaudet University —no one can argue with his success in elevating the University's endowment fund from $4 million in 1988 to today's cool $100 million!

— Frank R. Turk

All of these highly successful deaf people did not get their jobs solely because they are deaf. There is no such thing as deafness alone being a qualification for anything. It takes hard work, sacrifice, struggle, and empowerment. These people are role models, not tokens. They are qualified professionals well-versed in the needs and interests unique to deafness and hearing loss. They are leaders, developers, and builders. They ask for more, not less, hours of service to the nation's 28,000,000 deaf and hard-of-hearing people. Most importantly, they are the champions of the concept of integration, collaboration, partnership, and reciprocity.

Many hitherto-closed doors to professional advancement were opened in 1988 and these same doors are still wide open today. It is up to us, individually and collectively, to measure up to them. Just being deaf or an ASL expert does not merit entry, nor is it a passport to a job. The formula for success in today's competitive and increasingly impersonal America is INTEGRATION + COLLABORATION + PARTNERSHIP + RECIPROCITY = QUALITY DEAF AMERICA. This formula worked beautifully for me during my tenure as the first deaf superintendent of the South Dakota School for the Deaf and as the state director of North Carolina's Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing where I accomplished, among other things, a budget increase from $22 million in 1991 to $43 million in 1994 and, in 1993, the honor of being the State Manager of the Year out of the field of 65,000.

Try this success formula and you will just love it, thanks to the DPN.■

DeafView

READERS' RESPONSES

Should the illegal deaf Mexican immigrants be given U.S. citizenship?

22% Yes 62% No 15% Not sure

NOT SURE—I've got mixed feelings about this because I think U.S. is already overloaded with foreigners who want to come here and have the same shot at the "American Dream." The U.S. does not have enough resources to support anyone, much less illegal aliens and foreigners. If we give citizenship to those deaf Mexicans, deaf people from other countries may want the same thing for themselves. Where do we stop? Where do we draw the line? On the other hand, I recognize that life for deaf people is definitely better in America than anywhere else. So I'm torn about this.

NO—I do not believe they should be given special consideration just because they are deaf. They should go through the standard procedure for applying for immigration, just like anyone else.

YES—SIMPLE: Opportunity, Accessibility, and Deaf Community—why deny them? End of word.

NO—We have enough trouble here with Americans and don't need any more trouble with foreigners. We will probably end up paying for them, welfare, SSI and others.

YES—Because, the Americans is the nation of immgrants from every nation of the world...We should give them as U.S. citizen due to Mexico had very poor or lack of deaf education many deaf Mexican came to us to learn better education or opportunities. Just same problem with other country similar problem as Third World nations...I would blame for Mexico's huge red tapes and scandals for more than 500 years of dirty government...

NO—If we do, then normal hearing illegals will reiterate and demand theat they be given equal rights as deaf people!

NO—We should not give any reward to Deaf illegal aliens. Wrong message to any interest Deaf immigrant to America to enter illegally. It is totally unfair to each Deaf applicant from the foreign countries who are on the long waiting list to enter USA legally.

NO—We should not give preference to any illegal alien. Regardless of their hearing status, the problem of illegal immigrants is a large one. Why would we want to contribute to this growing crisis and allow Mexican immigrants to be given U.S. citizenship? The difficulties Mexican immigrants face would be twofold.

NOT SURE—I don't know much about illegal immigrants and the laws that the US has, but the laws shouldn't be altered whether it is a Deaf person or not.

NOT SURE—The reason why I choose Not Sure is because if I think deaf Mexicans immigrants should be given U.S. citizenship then hearing people will feel not fair so therefore there is something I think it would be easier if deaf Mexican immigrants want to get U.S. citizenship then they should sign up and request the government for citizenship same thing with hearing people do that when they are from other countries.

NO—I believe that we here have well educated deaf people who can volunteer going there and teach them in their country and to help them educate many ways and help them to dream a better way like us in America instead of coming to America to find a easy way out to be rich like us.

Readers have asked us how many "DeafView" responses we get every month.

This month's total: 634

DeafView

READERS' VIEWPOINT

DEAF LIFE would like to know what you think about major issues affecting the Deaf community. Fax your response to (716) 442-6371, E-mail us at deaflife@deaflife.com, **or** send it to us at Box 23380, Rochester, NY 14692-3380.

Ten years ago, the "DPN" revolution took place at Gallaudet University. Has it had deep and lasting impact on the Deaf community?

❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Not sure

Comments: _____

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Deadline: March 20,1998

Visit us at: **http://www.deafview.com**

FAX: (716) 442-6371

Please respond promptly so that we can publish the results in the April issue.

SUPPLEMENT TO DEAFLIFE

MARCH 1998

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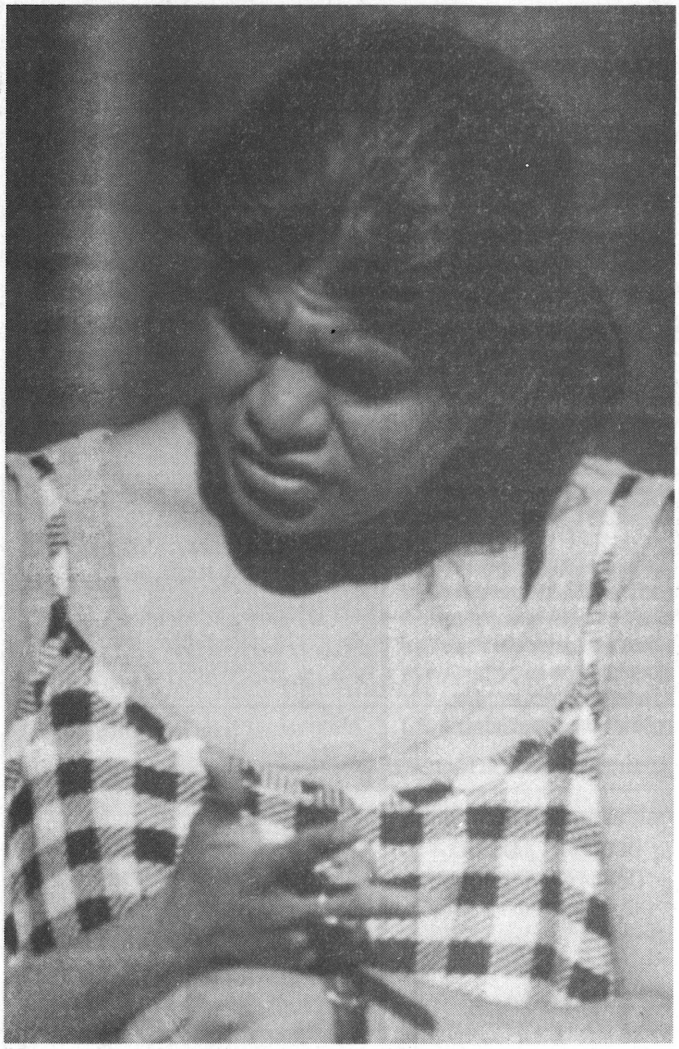
• RELEASES • ANNOUNCEMENTS • UPCOMING EVENTS • LATE-BREAKING NEWS •



July 19: An unidentified woman, one of the deaf Mexicans freed on July 19, is escorted to a police van after leaving the 115th Precinct. Next stop: the Westway Motor Hotel. (Rick Dembow)

Prisoners of fear, victims of hope: the ordeal of *los muditos part II*

FROM EAGER RECRUITS TO SLAVES

Daniel Molerio, an assistant district director for INS in New York, said, "The biggest factor that kept them there was their disability, which kept them dependent on the smugglers, and isolated them terribly. That was their key vulnerability, and the smugglers exploited it tremendously."
—Deborah Sontag, "7 Arrested in Abuse of Deaf Immigrants/Mexicans Lived in Servitude and Terror," **New York Times**, July 21, 1997

The Paolettis, being Deaf themselves, knew where to find young deaf people and how to communicate with them. They recruited their victims from schools for the deaf and what Queens D.A. Richard Brown called "homes for

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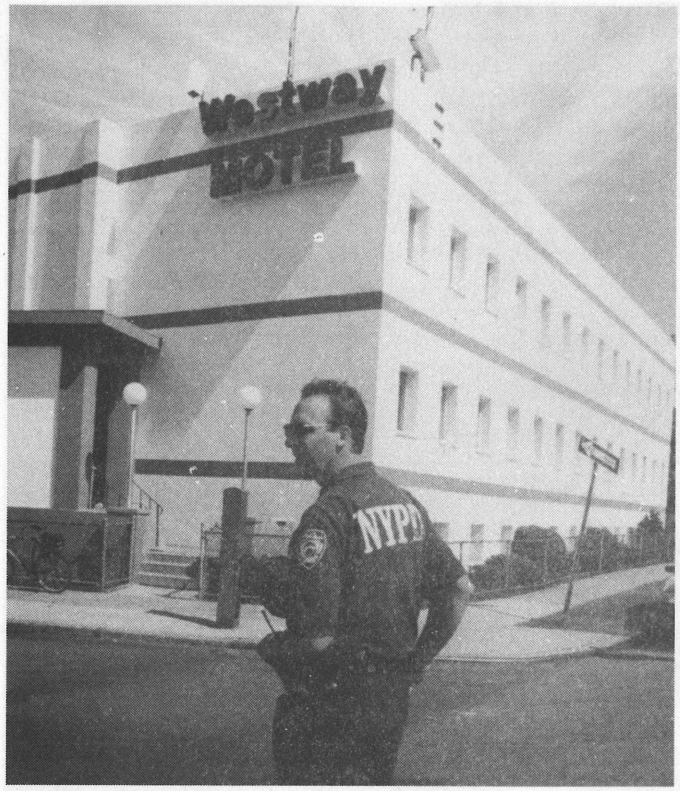


September 15: A NYPD officer stands guard near the Westway Motor Hotel on Astoria Boulevard, where some 55 deaf Mexican immigrants are still under house arrest two months after their rescue. They live comfortably, but will be arrested if they try to leave the motel, which is heavily guarded by police and INS officers. (Rick Dembow)

the impaired" by promising them that they'd be assisting with a successful small-business venture—the manufacturing and marketing of keychains. They could make much more money in the U.S. with less work. They'd be able to help their families and get ahead. Some went willingly, full of high hopes and ambition. Others may have been taken against their will—kidnapped, in other words.

> They arrived gradually, in small groups. Almost all were smuggled over the border by a professional coyote, or expert border crosser, hired by the ring, officials said. They were met on the other side by vans that took them to the Los Angeles area, where they were kept in houses controlled by the ring before taking commercial flights to Newark or La Guardia Airports, according to Federal investigators.
>
> The smugglers themselves appear to have traveled back and forth on tourist visas.
>
> In New York, the immigrants turned over their identity documents—their birth certificates, Mexican identity cards and, for those few who had them, their fake tourist visas—to the enforcers.
>
> —Deborah Sontag, "7 Arrested in Abuse of Deaf Immigrants/Mexicans Lived in Servitude and Terror," **New York Times**, July 21, 1997
>
> A . . . young man with a wispy trail of a beard recalled burrowing in the trash for baby pictures and birth certificates that the boss had spitefully discarded.
>
> —Somini Sengupta, "Telling Tales of Hunger, Abuse and Forced Labor," **New York Times**, July 22, 1997

Once they arrived in Queens, they were stashed in two Jackson Heights apartments rented by the ring. Both were ruled tyrannically by the Paolettis. Some of the captives were there as long as 5 years.

The captives were roughly woken up early in the morning (5 a.m.) and ordered to "get moving." They attached small "I AM DEAF . . . $1" cards to the keychains, packed their identical backpacks with 50 or 100 keychains, and were sent out in the darkness before dawn to peddle them on the streets and in the subways. Food was doled out in carefully measured, skimpy portions, and withheld as punishment. But as Deborah Sontag noted: "If they were lucky, and they often were, local shopkeepers gave them free bagels and coffee." Each peddler was assigned a particular subway route. As Sontag put it: "All day, they crisscrossed the city by train, timidly laying the trinkets down next to subway riders. . . . they proceeded mechanically from car to car. They usually worked as if in a bubble, keeping their heads bowed, avoiding eye contact." New Yorkers simply accepted them as part of the urban landscape, or as minor nuisances to be ignored.

After they got back, they counted their dollar bills, rubber-banded them into stacks, dropped the loose change into plastic bags, and handed everything over to one of the Paolettis. If customers who "took pity on them" gave them an extra dollar for their trinkets, they pocketed the extra, but that was risky, since they were physically

Cruz Torres Vasquez is embraced by her son and surrounded by her daughters during a July 21 interview with reporters in Mexico City. She is the mother of Reina Rodriguez Torres, one of the deaf Mexicans freed on July 19 in Queens. Authorities had begun to unravel an operation in which dozens of deaf Mexicans were illegally smuggled into the United States and sent to work on the subways, living in atrocious, slave-like conditions, controlled by bosses who confiscated their earnings as payment for bringing them here. (Jose Luis Magana/ AP)

searched every so often and beaten if they didn't hand over all their cash to the Paolettis every night. Renato was known as a "strict accountant," the tough guy, while Pipo was the "softie."

They were expected to bring back $50 to $100 every day, seven days a week. And if they didn't meet the assigned quota, they were viciously punished. They often worked until after midnight. But those who came back too late in the evening would find themselves locked out and were forced to sleep in a nearby park or the subway.

According to Sontag, "They received a salary of $400 a month, from which $200 was withdrawn for rent, leaving $200 that was pooled to buy food and clothing." If they needed to buy something, they had to request money from the bosses. They had two days off every other month. If they tried to escape, they were tracked down, dragged back, and punished. José Paoletti Moreda threatened to kill them if they talked to the police.

Somini Sengupta of the **Times**, who visited the Westway when reporters were still allowed access to the Mexicans, recounted how George Friebolin, a Spanish-speaking interpreter and independent-living-skills specialist working at the Lexington Center, visited the Mexicans (many of whom he already knew). He asked if they wanted to return to peddling. They emphatically said *"No!"* Did they want to work? *"Yes!"* they all

said, just as emphatically. They told him what skills they possessed—electrical work, auto-body repair, house painting. Some of them told him that they had come to Queens to earn money to send to their families back in Mexico. "But of course, they never made enough," Friebolin said.

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Without question, New Yorkers deplored the plight of the Mexicans who had fallen victim to a smuggling ring. It made no difference whether it was a subway maintenance worker who bought a small screwdriver for a dollar two weeks ago or a Wall Street clerk standing on the Queensboro Plaza platform who resented how "they push this stuff on you, working on your guilt." Words like "despicable," "horrible" and "outrageous" were universal reactions.

But some new Yorkers also recognized that larger issues were at stake in their relationship with the army of immigrants who, while often all but invisible, increasingly help make the city run.

Los muditos, the mute and deaf ones in the subway, may be the most shocking case to come along here since Chinese illegal immigrants ran aground off Rockaway Peninsula four years ago in the *Golden Venture* smuggling ship. But when was the last time you ate in a restaurant where the busboy came from somewhere other than below the Rio Grande? Same with the fellow watching over the flowers at the local grocery store or the deli deliveryman. (...)

The real question is what happens on the broader issues once the shock of this forced-labor case wears off.

—Clyde Haberman, "Immigrants: In Plain Sight, But Not Seen," "NYC," **New York Times**, July 22, 1997

The Mexicans returned to their former "boarding houses" one last time to retrieve their belongings. News photographers snapped pictures of them on their way back to the police vans, escorted by sign-language interpreters and NYPD Community Affairs personnel. The Mexicans, who looked quite young, shielded their faces or pulled their T-shirts over their faces, as though they were afraid of being recognized, afraid for their own safety, still fearful of possible retaliation. Nonetheless, one managed to flash a cheerful "ILY" sign at a **Daily News** photographer.

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani continued negotiations with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. An agreement was made to allow INS to start taking custody of the group. The Mexicans would remain in New York City (at the Westway) until they'd been fully interviewed by authorities. Mayor Giuliani said, "We will have access to all the people there." In return for retaining access, the City agreed to pay for part of their care. They would "receive medical and other assistance for a range of agencies and volunteer organizations."

Now in the custody of INS, they were interrogated daily by INS agents, prosecutors, and Legal Aid attorneys, who were trying to piece together a confusing and complicated puzzle—a puzzle made even more complicated by the communication problem.

Doctors from Elmhurst Hospital Center in Queens and Red Cross workers visited the Mexicans and checked them for signs of physical and sexual abuse. All had "painful stories" to tell. According to Blanca Quintanilla and Anne E. Kornblut's front-page report in the **Daily News**, "Adult victims mostly suffered from gastric pains and fungal foot problems, doctors said. And most children were simply missing vaccines." The children were in good physical and emotional shape, and some of the men were in good health. "They told doctors they often jogged before hitting the streets to sell their $1 trinkets."

Despite assurances from Mayor Giuliani that an agreement was being worked out with the INS, "the immigrants were scared and nervous." Dr. Ricardo Galdamez of Elmhurst Medical Center told the **Daily News**, "They seemed to be more concerned about their immigration status than their health." Deportation proceedings were still a real possibility.

Officials in Mexico set up a hotline for families who thought that their children and relatives were among the freed victims of the peddling ring. More than a dozen calls had already been received.

INS officials announced that they were investi-

gating possible satellite smuggling rings in Los Angeles, and had begun an investigation in Mexico.

EASY MONEY

After the victims were rescued, police found large stacks of $1 bills all over the apartment at 93rd Street. In a locked room at the back, they found a total of $35,000 in plastic containers, $10,000 of it in singles (along with 20 Mexican ID cards). It was destined for a bank in Mexico City—and the Paoletti family's accounts. It was evidently to be used to acquire large amounts of real estate. (The true income of the ring was later determined to be $1 million a year.)

In a **Times** article, Dan Barry described how "tens of thousands" of dollars collected by the Paolettis from their "workers" had been laundered in Atlantic City casinos. The cash was then smuggled across the border to Mexico. Barry's informant was Brendan Coenen, 25, the brother of Frank Coenen, Adriana Paoletti Lemus' ex-husband. Brendan Coenen told Barry that "the group's network extended well beyond the 57" who had been rescued, that "dozens of other peddlers were also working for the group from other bases in Queens and the Bronx."

Why was he informing? He was angry. He said that "there was so much money lying around" that had once stolen $5,000, but Frank and Adriana had notified the police and had him arrested. He was convicted of burglary and spent two months in prison last year. He told Barry, "They say that blood is thicker than water. But not when you're running the slave trade." He denied that Frank was directly involved in the trinket ring, though.

Adriana had told him that "she earned nearly $200,000 a year, almost all of which was deposited in banks in Mexico City." "She held their green cards and violence over their heads," Coenen said. "Sometimes she wouldn't even pay them in money. Sometimes it was just pizza."

He explained how cartons of trinkets from Rhode Island Novelty were delivered via UPS to the Coenen family's home in East Meadow, Long Island, and how one of the Paolettis would pick them up and bring them to Queens, where the trinkets were distributed to the "workers" to card and sell. They would bring back the cash and bundle it into packets of 100 singles.

Adriana and her brother Renato would drive to Atlantic City and exchange the packets of $1 bills for packets of $100 bills at casino windows. They'd then drive to Southern California and cross the Mexican border. They concealed the cash by taping it to their bodies. Then a lawyer associate would deposit the cash in bank accounts in Mexico City. On their way back to the States, they sometimes picked up more "recruits" and smuggled them in.

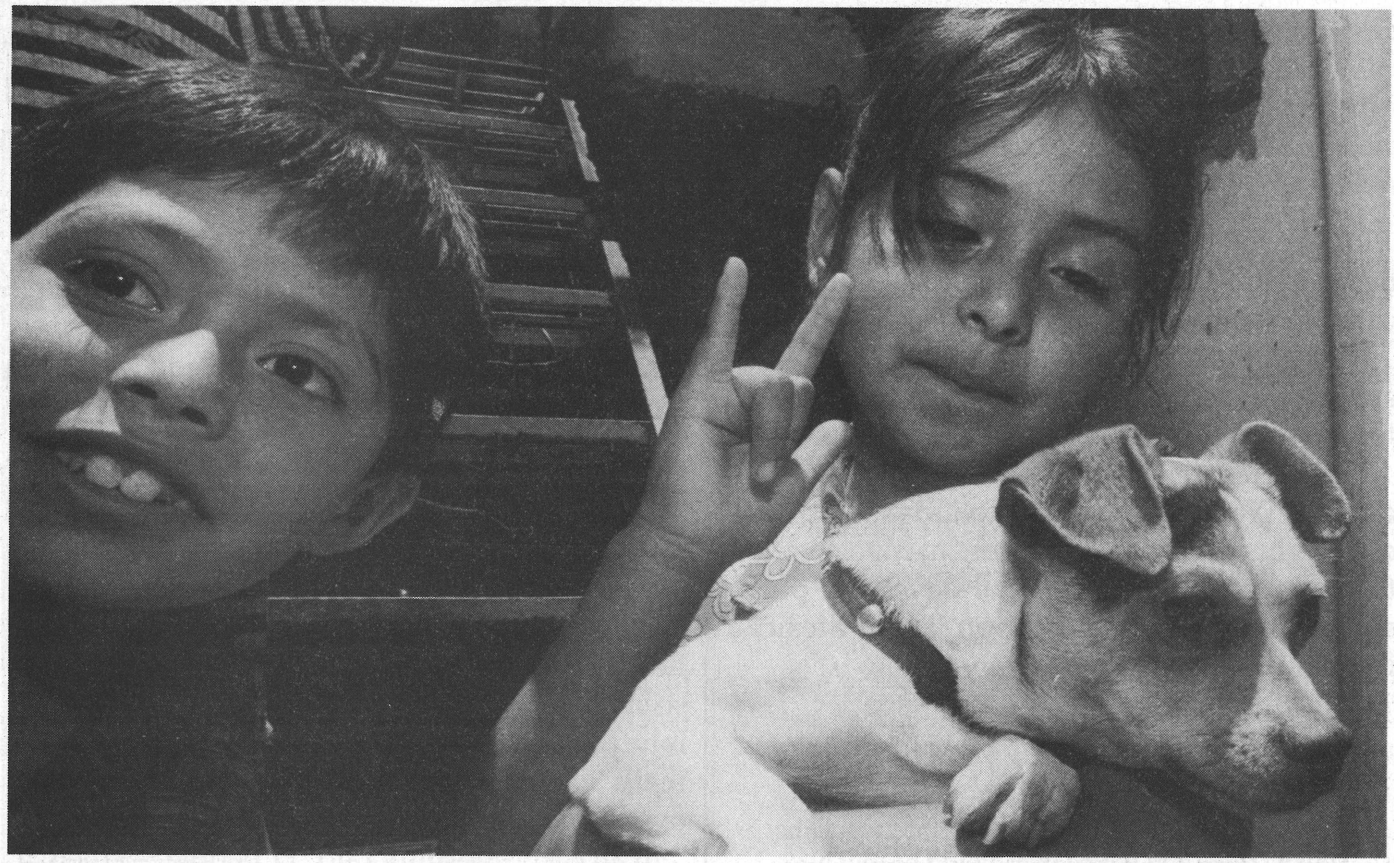
Coenen described Adriana as the "mastermind of the scheme." He said that she and his brother Frank were separated 3 years ago and divorced last year but still kept in touch. "She was making money hand over fist," Coenen said. "She even offered me a job. She was recruiting people here to take it. It was messed up."

THE HOUSE ON THE EDGE OF KOREATOWN

The spotlight shifted to the modest two-story stucco house of Hilario Rivera Pauletti, which police described as a "way station." It is on the edge of Los Angeles' bustling Koreatown district. Pauletti, 48, known as Lalo, is the nephew of José Paoletti Moreda and a cousin of Renato and Pipo. He too is deaf.

In newspaper interviews, Pauletti said he had helped his uncle José and his children by letting them stay at his house and, as the **Times'** Tim Golden put it, "by occasionally driving them to a travel agency to buy airline tickets for trips on which they took the undocumented immigrants from Los Angeles to New York." He told **Daily News** reporter Maria Elena Fernandez that Pipo and a handful of other Mexicans bound for Queens had dined at his house. One of them told him, "I'm going to sell keychains for Pipo so I can send the money to my mother."

Pauletti also claimed he had taken in two young deaf immigrants who fled the Queens "bondage



Two days after her mother, Reina Rodriguez Torres, was rescued in Queens, her daughter, Liana Guillen, sent her an "I Love You" greeting from her home in Mexico City. (José Luis Magana/ AP)

house." He insisted that he had known nothing about any criminal activities, and had no suspicions about his uncle and aunt—until recently.

He said that he shared the house with his wife, son, daughter-in-law, two grandchildren, and a deaf German-born man, Andy Pfeiffer, who had married a Mexican woman.

He apparently didn't say much else. But law-enforcement officers were ready to act.

A CHAT WITH LALO'S MOTHER

Meanwhile, an AP reporter was interviewing Josefina Paoletti Alvarez, 77, José Paoletti Moreda's sister and Lalo's mother. She was stunned at the revelations and didn't understand what was going on or how it could have happened.

"What can I say about him?" Josefina Paoletti Alvarez signed of her brother, José Paoletti Moreda. "Everyone else says bad things about him, but I can't. . . . He's my brother. Even so, it does make my very sad," she signed through an interpreter.

She and other relatives—all deaf—gathered in a friend's modest apartment in a working-class neighborhood of Mexico City to scour the newspapers. They gasped when they saw people they knew on the TV news, astonished at the thought that loved ones may be involved in a scheme that appears so inhuman.

They found it hard to believe that a deaf person could mistreat another deaf person; deaf people face enough discrimination from the speaking world, they said. (...)

Josefina's brother had been in Mexico City for a visit last week when he got a phone call from New York and had to rush home. He said there was a problem there, but didn't elaborate.

[Lalo] lives in Los Angeles with four deaf Mexicans who sell trinkets for him, splitting the take 50-50. She hasn't heard from him in four months, and signed that she was afraid he could be in jail as well.

Other relatives reassured her. "He takes care of the people with him," signed Rosario Lozano Marti, 52, whose daughter is married to Lalo. "I went [to Los Angeles] a year ago and saw that everything was fine."

Besides, Lozano said, "Lalo's deaf too, and how

could he mistreat another deaf person?"

That was one unanswerable question.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

Los Angeles police and undercover INS agents began staking out Pauletti's house, but they didn't catch the ringleader, Renato Paoletti Lemus.

Pauletti and his housemate, Andy Pfeiffer, were arrested today, but their arrest wasn't announced for a week.

The **Times** reported: "Justice Department officials in Washington said yesterday that their civil-rights division had begun an investigation to explore bringing additional slavery, or peonage, charges against the seven illegal Mexican immigrants arrested in Queens."

THURSDAY, JULY 24

> Inside [the Westway Motor Inn], some anxiety grew today as they asked how long they would be staying there and where they would be sent next. The question is the subject of negotiations between Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.
>
> —Tim Golden, "Agents Seek Associates in Smuggling Ring," **New York Times**, July 24

Dr. Ricardo Galdamez of Elmhurst Hospital Center, who revisited the Mexicans and brought them gifts, told the **Times** that three young women told him that they'd been sexually molested every day by Renato Paoletti Lemus for "almost two years." They were slapped when they resisted and threatened with physical harm, even death, if they told anyone. Paoletti Lemus also fathered at least two of the children borne by captives. Two of the victims said that their babies had been taken away by the Paolettis, and they didn't know what had happened to them.

A crisis-intervention team from the hospital also came in to calm a hysterical woman and frightened, withdrawn teenager. They succeeded.

Lynette Holloway reported in the **Times** that the Giuliani administration and the City Council agreed on a bill that would "sharply increase existing penalties on landlords who subdivide houses illegally." The bill had already been proposed, but was "given new urgency" by the discovery that one of the "bondage-ring" houses "had been visited by an inspector who reported no violations of city codes." The bill was to be voted on Friday, July 25, and was expected to pass.

FRIDAY, JULY 25

Federal INS agents raided two houses in Sanford, North Carolina (a small town around 35 miles southwest of Raleigh), where they found over a dozen more illegal Mexican immigrants, most of them deaf, living in inhumane conditions. In what had already become a familiar scenario, the Sanford "recruits" were coerced into peddling trinkets at shopping centers and malls in Greensboro and Raleigh and turning over virtually all the profits to their bosses.

In an early-morning raid, 17 people—9 men, 5 women, two children, and an infant—were taken to INS offices in Charlotte, then to a local hotel. Marcos Campos Sanchéz and his wife, Guadalupe Palencia Moisés, both deaf, were identified by INS as the "bosses" of the Sanford ring. INS was investigating a possible connection to the Queens smuggling ring.

On the same day, around 65 migrant Latino workers, many of them thought to be illegal immigrants, were evacuated from three filthy houses in New Haven, Connecticut. They had been brought to Connecticut to work in the tobacco fields for around $6 an hour. They, too, were being investigated by federal INS agents. None were detained, however. Most went to stay with friends or relatives in the area.

According to an AP report, "City housing inspectors found 30 people, including several children, crammed into one house where electricity and water had been hooked up illegally and raw sewage was in the basement." Larry Etoule, the owner of two of the houses, was arrested and charged with housing-code violations. Police were looking for the owner of the other house.

In New York, Federal prosecutors made another arrest in connection with the Queens ring: Frank Coenen, the ex-husband of Adriana Paoletti Lemus. He was charged with conspiracy—helping to bring the illegal immigrants to New York and aiding the trinket-peddling ring.

Investigators in New York were still pursuing leads to determine whether similar operations were being run in other cities, and if they were connected to the Paoletti family's operation. In Chicago, INS officials were interviewing seven deaf Mexican peddlers in a north-city neighborhood.

ONE WAY TO MAKE A LIVING

As Deborah Sontag observed: "Hundreds of other deaf Mexicans have moved north recently to sell trinkets in American cities, driven away by intolerance and drawn by a perception of greater opportunity." Small communities of Deaf Mexicans exist in Los Angeles and Long Beach, California, Chicago, and Rochester, New York. The **Times** quoted Marcella M. Meyer, GLAD's Executive Director, on the deaf-peddler situation in California. She said that she knew of several small peddling rings, each headed by a "king." The peddlers gave the king a portion of the proceeds in exchange for "protection." The king was supposed to help them if they got into trouble with the police.

Some peddlers were exploited, but none seemed to have experienced the horrific conditions of the Queens group. That is, until the news broke of related "bondage rings" operated by the Paolettis and their associates in other cities.

SATURDAY, JULY 26

Agents from the United States Attorney's office in Brooklyn, which is heading the investigation, arrested two persons described as leaders of a trinket-peddling operation in Chicago, which they described as similar to the Paoletti ring. Norma Alcantara, who's in her 30s, and her assistant Frank Dueno, who's in his 20s, were arrested today and charged with harboring illegal immigrants that they smuggled into the country.

Alcantara was described as a longtime friend of the Paoletti family. Relations between Alcantara and the Paolettis were so friendly that they swapped peddlers. A Federal official told reporter Dan Barry that "the Chicago and New York operations developed such a spirit of cooperation that they often shared deaf peddlers . . . If the Chicago ring was short-staffed, the official said, peddlers from New York were placed on a northwestbound bus. If a peddler in New York was considered to be recalcitrant, he was sent to Chicago."

SUNDAY, JULY 27

> Since the 1970's, researchers and social service workers say, poor immigrants have largely taken over and transformed a byzantine economy of deaf peddlers, which has its roots in places like Los Angeles Street and extends from shopping centers in Chicago to retirement villages in Florida and Texas.
> —Tim Golden and Ian Fisher, "For Deaf Peddlers, Both Opportunity and Exploitation," **New York Times**, July 27, 1997

Tim Golden and Ian Fisher published a detailed front-page article in the **Times**, "For Deaf Peddlers, Both Opportunity and Exploitation," which analyzed the keychain empire of the Paoletti family and explored the complicated world of deaf peddlers in the U.S., giving a historical and socio-economic background. During recent years, they noted, there has been an upsurge in the numbers of deaf peddlers across the country—many of them immigrants from Asia and South American countries.

Some young deaf recruits see peddling trinkets as a tough but honest way to make a living. They understand the hardships involved. Their bosses, usually deaf, are generally fair. The bosses purchase the trinkets wholesale and split the profits, half-and-half, with the peddlers. For some peddlers, though, exploitation and brutality are their reward. They are lured by promises of good livelihood and prosperity, separated from their families (and often totally cut off from contact),

July 25: Juan Flores laughs among friends during a session at a Mexico City school for the deaf. Aside from a few hours a week at his school, Flores spends all of his days surrounded by people he cannot communicate with (and who can't communicate with him), selling trinkets on the city streets. Although it's hard to make a living, he prefers taking his chances here instead of trying to go to New York. He fears that he'd get caught up in a peddling ring and live in "virtual slavery" conditions. (Gregory Bull/AP)

smuggled into the United States with false documents, and are at the mercy of their greedy, vicious bosses, as happened with the Paolettis' extraordinarily well-organized empire.

Golden and Fisher's article reproduced an order written out by José Paoletti Moreda to L.A. Top Distributor on February 28. He paid some 12¢ apiece (including UPS shipping) for 24,000 miniature spinning-globe keychains to be sold for $1.00 each—less than a week's supply, police said, but which would have netted $21,300 before expenses such as subway tokens, rent, and the small sums used to lodge and pay the peddlers were subtracted.

MONDAY, JULY 28

Juan Antonio Limon-Sosa, a 21-year-old illegal Mexican immigrant (who's hearing), was arrested in Chicago. He was charged with being the enforcer—the man who took in the money and gave out the beatings—of the Alcantara trinket-peddling ring. According to Ian Fisher's report, "Federal officials said . . . Limon-Sosa, who is not deaf, ha traveled at least twice from Chicago to New York, where he also beat and threatened peddlers at a house in Jackson Heights, Queens."

TUESDAY, JULY 29

Ivan Gomez-Sanchez was arrested in the Westway Motor Inn, where he had been living in comfort and safety along with the rest of the rescued deaf immigrants. He was charged in Federal District Court with being the person

who carried out the beatings and torture at the apartment on 93rd Street.

Ian Fisher, who reported, wrote: "Court papers suggest that most of the information . . . comes from interviews in recent days in Chicago, where Federal agents raided another peddler operation they say was similar to the one in New York. The interviews continue to suggest how intertwined the two operations were: much of the testimony in the court papers about . . . Gomez-Sanchez's role came from two deaf peddlers now in Chicago who had once worked for the operation in New York City."

THURSDAY, JULY 31

Zachary W. Carter, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, announced three more arrests: Hilario ("Lalo") Pauletti and Andreas Pfeiffer, identified as leaders of the Los Angeles immigrant-smuggling ring, and Pauletti's son Carlos Rivera Paoletti, "a mid-level manager." (He too is deaf.)

Pfeiffer and Pauletti were arrested last Wednesday and arraigned in Federal court today on charges of transporting, harboring, and concealing illegal immigrants. They were held without bail and entered no pleas. A hearing was scheduled for August 8 to discuss transporting them to Brooklyn to face charges.

In Chicago, Pedro Santamaria was arrested on related charges of smuggling immigrants. According to Todd S. Purdum's **Times** report, "He is said to have supervised the trinket-selling activities of a group of illegal Mexican immigrants there before transporting them to New York to work in the Queens operation, which investigators now believe was closely linked to the Chicago group." The leader of that group, Norma Alcantara, a longtime friend of the Paoletti family, was arrested last week and charged with harboring illegal immigrants.

This brought the total to 16 arrests so far. Two of the key figures—José Paoletti Moreda and Renato Paoletti Lemus—remained at large.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

Federal agents scored the 17th arrest in the case: Augustino Rodriguez Torres. Like almost everyone else arrested so far, he is a deaf illegal Mexican immigrant, and, as Ian Fisher noted, "was charged with being part of the cross-country ring that they say exploited and abused deaf immigrants smuggled from Mexico." Rodriguez Torres' job, Federal authorities said, "was to administer beatings to other deaf people at the behest of a group ringleader."

Until now, Renato Paoletti Lemus, "who has so far evaded arrest," was thought to be "the boss." But papers filed in Federal District Court in Brooklyn assign a broader role to his sister, Adriana Paoletti Lemus, "portraying her as the driving force who 'helped' workers into the United States and who ran the family's first house of deaf peddlers in New York."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Some of the rescued deaf Mexicans will be able to stay in the United states for at least 3 years to help investigators pursue criminal cases against those accused of enslaving them.

Those allowed to stay will be granted special 3-year "S visas," which are offered by the Justice Department to enable crime witnesses to remain here while prosecutors gather the evidence and conduct the research needed to present their cases. Brian J. Jordan, an INS spokesman in Washington, D.C., said that after the visas expire, the Mexicans will be able to apply for status as legal residents of the United States.

On July 21, only 2 days after they were freed, U.S. Representative Charles E. Schumer, a Brooklyn Democrat, asked Attorney General Janet Reno to grant S visas to the Mexicans. Today, Schumer said through a spokesman that he was "gratified" by the Justice Department's decision to allow at least some of the Mexicans to stay.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

Their lives now are markedly different from the lives they led peddling trinkets in the city's trains

for $1 apiece from the early hours of the morning to well past midnight. (...)

Now they sleep and eat and eat and sleep, day after day, in an endless circle of inactivity broken only by an occasional visit to a hospital or a game of cards. (...)

Heavily guarded by New York City police officers and Federal immigration officials, it is practically impossible to communicate with them or to visit their rooms. Contact with the news media has been limited to a few words signed from the windows in the days right after their detention, when reporters crowded the streets around Astoria Boulevard, vying for a peek inside their rooms.

—Mirta Ojito, "For Deaf Mexicans, Routine Sets In/Ex-Captives Adapt to a Motel Monotony of Eating and Sleeping," **New York Times**, August 3, 1997

Two weeks after their rescue, the deaf immigrants (now numbered at 55) were still being held at the Westway Motor Inn, where they were under heavy guard by INS agents and City police. It was a comfortable, if dull, detention. They had plenty to eat, and ate well. Their "abundant meals" were prepared by a chef, and occasionally included such Mexican favorites as tacos, tortillas, or quesadillas. Their king-sized beds were changed every other day and their wastebaskets were emptied and their bathrooms cleaned daily by cleaning staff.

Each floor had about 5 guards stationed there, and all motel entryways were guarded by NYPD and INS officers. The Mexicans couldn't leave the motel (they would be arrested if they did), and had to wear plastic bracelets with ID numbers on them, but could visit each other, talk, relax, get counseling and round-the-clock medical care, watch TV (mostly *telenovelas*, Spanish-language soap operas, and sports events, with the volume off), play table and card games, attend Mass, pray, and read.

There wasn't much else to do.

Still, it was undoubtedly the most luxurious life they had ever experienced, and they were making the most of it. A maintenance worker told Ojito: "I think they are having a good time. They are always smiling. They are really nice."

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

The two men described as ringleaders—José Paoletti Moreda and his son Renato Paoletti Lemus—were arrested in Mexico and remained in custody, while New York officials sought to have them extradited. They had eluded police for 18 days. Their arrests ended a massive cross-country and over-the-border manhunt. They face an assortment of U.S. federal charges.

The arrests occurred after two men, one of whom fraudulently claimed to be José Paoletti Moreda, tried to cash a 1.7-million-peso check at a Banamex bank where the Paolettis' assets had been frozen. The Mexican federal police were called to the bank and arrested the two men, who then led them to a house in the low-income neighborhood of Narvarte, where Renato and José were being held in a locked room. INS officials also assisted with the arrest.

18 of the 20 defendants charged with operating the Queens ring pleaded not guilty to charges of extortion, alien-smuggling, and conspiracy. Their trials were scheduled to begin January 12, 1998.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

Law-enforcement officials in Mexico City and Washington, D.C., began preparing criminal charges against José Paoletti Moreda Renato Paoletti Lemus. Mexican officials said they planned to charge the father with organized crime. He lured hundreds of deaf Mexicans to the U.S. with promises of high-paying jobs, smuggling them illegally across the border.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

An 11-count Federal indictment unsealed today provides the most detailed—and graphic—picture yet of the Paoletti's "bondage ring" and some specific acts of cruelty that kept their "workers" in terror—and desperately busy selling more and more trinkets as they could so they could bring back as much cash as they could. Among the disclosures: ringleaders used electric shocks on one peddler who hadn't been selling enough trinkets. Another was punished for leaving the

house by having her head slammed against a wall. One of the men was handcuffed to a bed for a week and forced to make more trinkets to be sold on the street. Others were beaten for trying to escape or for not turning over all their earnings to the "bosses" at the end of the day. One man said that Pipo threatened to kill him if he ever told the police what was going on. Several women made accusations of sexual abuse; these were still being investigated.

The indictment also indicated that the operation, which prosecutors say was run by an extended clan of deaf people from Mexico City, was not as widespread as it was initially thought to be. Although it was believed to be the largest of its kind, it appeared to have been limited to New York City and Chicago with a separate group in Los Angeles of people who smuggled the Mexicans into the U.S.

Leslie Cornfeld, an assistant U.S. Attorney who is involved in prosecuting the case, said, "The operation has largely been dismantled. The leaders of this operation have now been arrested and charged, including the ringleaders in three major cities throughout the country."

But investigators provided an intriguing explanation for why other cities appeared to have similar rings of deaf peddlers. The Paolettis, who ran the New York operation, forced peddlers from New York to take day trips out of town to work. The ringleaders would take them to and from cities like Philadelphia, Washington, and Boston, so they could earn yet more money selling the trinkets. Money for the Paoletti family, that is.

And there was plenty for them. Prosecutors estimated that the ring had been taking in $1 million a year over 5 years.

Zachary W. Carter said there appeared to be no link between the New York ring and the smaller ring in Sanford, North Carolina, that was shut down last month.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

A Federal grand jury indicted Marcos Campos Sanchéz, 39, and his wife, Guadalupe Palencia Moisés, 42, both of them undocumented deaf Mexican immigrants, on charges of running an immigrant-smuggling/trinket-peddling ring (similar to that of the Paoletti family) in Sanford, North Carolina. Charges include conspiracy to violate Federal immigration laws, inducing illegal immigrants to come to the United States, and harboring and transporting illegal immigrants.

Walter C. Holton, Jr., the U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina, announced a 16-count indictment against Campos Sanchéz and Palencia Moisés. They were accused of running two houses in Sanford into which 14 deaf Mexicans were crammed, and forcing them to peddle trinkets and turn over all the proceeds to "bosses." The houses were raided on July 25. Conditions there were described as better than those in the two apartments in Jackson Heights.

Although investigators believed that the Sanford ring was separate from the Queens-Los Angeles ring, but continued to investigate informal ties to the Chicago ring. One INS official said, "We know there's a link. What we are still investigating is what the link was, and what it meant."

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Marcos Campos Sanchéz and Guadalupe Palencia Moisés pleaded guilty to a single charge of conspiring to smuggle other deaf Mexicans into the U.S. to peddle trinkets in Sanford, North Carolina. D.A. Walter C. Holton, Jr., said that 15 other charges against the couple were dismissed.

Each of them faces up to 5 years in prison and a $250,000 fine. Sentencing was set for January 6, 1998.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

An admitted enforcer for the ringleaders said today that Adriana Paoletti Lemus and her brother Renato used an electric stun gun to tor-

ture several peddlers who hadn't been selling enough trinkets.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1998

The trial of several members of the Paoletti ring arrested in July began today.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Because they are in the U.S. illegally, several of the deaf Mexicans are likely to be deported. Many of them don't want to go back to Mexico. If they return, they will face social humiliation and the same old problems of crushing poverty, joblessness, underemployment, substandard wages, isolation, and lack of opportunities that they tried to escape. For all the horrors they have experienced, some still prefer living—and working—in the States. To them, the U.S.A. is the land of hard knocks, but it's also the land of opportunity. Dreams die hard. And while they have experienced some of the worst that the U.S. has had to offer, they've experienced some of the best, too—kindness, compassion, generosity, and friendship. And some of the advantages enjoyed by Deaf people in the States, benefits that are nonexistent in Mexico.

What will happen to them when the trials are over and the "bondage ring" is no longer news?

(Next month, we'll be examining media coverage of the case and how deaf people, the Mexicans, in particular, were portrayed in the news.)

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✏ Special thanks to Bill Martin of the **New York Daily News** and Lisa Nelson of AP/Wide World for their invaluable assistance, and, of course, to Raymond Luczak for keeping us informed.

Tell your friends about us!

DO PRISONERS HAVE RIGHTS UNDER THE A.D.A.?

On January 23, the Supreme Court agreed to decide whether the Americans with Disabilities Act, a far-reaching federal law that protects disabled people from discriminatory treatment, extends to prison inmates with impaired mobility or other health problems. The justices said they would review a case, *Pennsylvania vs. Yeskey*, 97-634, in which a Pennsylvania prisoner is suing the state over its refusal to enroll him in a motivational boot camp.

Lawyers for Pennsylvania say the ADA, and its predecessor, the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, never were intended to apply to state prisons. But the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled last July that prisoners can invoke both laws in suing over the conditions of their imprisonment.

Said the Appeals Court: "The question of the applicability of the ADA to prisons is an important one, especially in view of the increased number of inmates, including many older, hearing-impaired, and HIV-positive inmates in the nation's jails. In enacting the ADA, Congress invoked the sweep of its authority . . . If the plain words of the statute are to guide the courts in interpreting it, then both statutes must be held to apply to state and local correctional facilities."

In 1994, **Ronald Yeskey** sued Pennsylvania prison authorities after being declared medically ineligible for admission to a prison boot camp. His lawsuit sought admission and monetary damages. A federal judge threw out his case, but the 3rd Circuit Court reinstated it. Pennsylvania officials then sought help from the nation's highest court. Pennsylvania's appeal was supported in a friend-of-the-court brief submitted by 26 states and the District of Columbia.

Federal appeals courts are split on the applicability of the two anti-discrimination laws in prisons. In a similar dispute from California now pending before the Supreme Court, Clinton Administration lawyers said the Pennsylvania case would be a good one for the justices to review and resolve the conflicting lower-court rulings.

Justice Department lawyers said they believe prisoners should be allowed to file such lawsuits.

✏ Adapted from an AP report by **Richard Carelli**, "Court To Rule On Disabled Inmates," carried on NJ-L News. ➤

McCAY VERNON HONORED

Friends, colleagues, and former students have established an endowed fund at Western Maryland College in honor of **McCay Vernon**.

The McCay Vernon Fund for Support of Deaf Education, which honors Dr. Vernon for his more than 20 years of contributions to the WMC graduate program in deaf education, will provide resources for various uses within the department that could include updating technology, honoraria for guest lecturers, scholarship assistance, or professional

travel funds.

Dr. Vernon, who joined the faculty in 1969 and retired in 1991, is now Professor of Psychology and Director of the WMC Institute on Hearing Impairment Emeritus. Known for helping his students in the classroom, as well as in their pursuit of careers in the field, he has written several books on deafness, including **The Psychology of Deafness: Understanding Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing People** and **The Randy Inskip Story: Keys to Success for Hard-of-Hearing People**. He's perhaps best known for **They Grow in Silence** (co-authored with **Eugene D. Mindel**), a study of deaf children growing up deprived of sign language.

Said **Ken Pool**, Dean of Graduate Affairs, "Deaf education continues to be a highlight of our graduate program at WMC and we owe much of the success to Dr. Vernon." The WMC graduate program is recognized as the nation's largest for training teachers to instruct the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

Gifts are now being accepted for this fund. For more information contact **Gail C. Shaivitz**, Associate Director of Major Gifts, Western Maryland College, at ☎(410) 857-2249 (Voice) or ❐(410) 857-2489 (FAX). Address: 2 College Hill, Westminster, MD 21157-4390.

"THE RESPONSE HAS BEEN ASTONISHING"

Star Schools Grant: first quarterly update
(October 1-December 31, 1997)
by **Stephen M. Nover**, Project Director
and **Carla Fenner**, Assistant Project Director

In the fall issue of the **New Mexico Progress**, we described an exciting new project taking place at the New Mexico School for the Deaf. NMSD received a $1.3 million grant through Star Schools to establish a model for bilingual/ESL (English as a Second Language) instruction to improve the reading and writing achievement of deaf and hard-of-hearing children. This is a collaborative grant effort between NMSD and the Texas School for the Deaf. Eight teachers at NMSD and seven teachers at TSD participated in the training seminars.

This model of instruction will include five strands: 1. Instructional Framework, 2. Instructional Language/Literacy Assessment, 3. Staff Development Resources, 4. Parent/Dorm Staff Involvement, and 5. Technology Development and Dissemination.

A workgroup has been established, consisting of key personnel and consultants to provide feedback and input regarding development and implementation° of the grant. This workgroup will function as a peer-review committee and will evaluate materials and information before dissemination.° The members of this workgroup are named below.

1. Instructional Framework: This framework, which was developed by Steve Nover, forms the basis for all seminar training and describes the ASL and English abilities we want our children to acquire. The seminar challenges teachers to develop more effective strategies in teaching the ASL/English abilities listed in the framework.

2. Instructional Language/Literacy Assessment: The purpose of this strand is to develop appropriate tools to assess the language/literacy abilities of deaf children from Pre-K through 5th grade. The grant workgroup committee has been exploring appropriate assessment tools and has agreed to investigate the materials currently being used at the Kansas, Texas, and New Mexico Schools for the Deaf during this first year of the grant. **Pam Shaw**, Director of Research from the Kansas School for the Deaf, will provide consultation in this area and will lead the investigation of assessment materials for the workgroup. **Nancy Eades**, ASL/ESL Coordinator at KSD, will assist Shaw. **Susan Dickinson**, from Colorado, will provide consultation in the area of assessment. The resulting assessment materials will be integrated into Nover's existing framework.

3. Staff Development Resources: The purpose of this strand is to provide training in the areas of bilingual education, ESL instruction, literacy, and assessment to teachers at NMSD, TSD, and eventually to other schools for the deaf. Ultimately, we will develop a training package for teacher training which will be available for dissemination to programs for the deaf and hard-of-hearing nationwide.

Tommie Brasel at NMSD and **Betty Bounds** and **Johnett Scogin** at TSD facilitate training for teachers in seminars at their schools. **Laurene Gallimore**, Director of the teacher-training program in Deaf Education at Western Oregon State University, also provides consultation in the area of training.

Eleven teachers at NMSD and seven teachers at TSD are participating in the Star Schools grant. During the first quarter they attended seminars at their schools and began discussions related to how bilingual and ESL approaches can be applied to promote English-literacy development.

4. Parent Involvement: The purpose of including this area into the grant is to provide parents and dormitory staff with accurate information about bilingual/ESL education and its impact on language/literacy development of deaf and hard of hearing children. Nover, along with **Jean Andrews**, Professor in the Deaf Education Department at Lamar University, will develop materials which include literacy activities for deaf children.

Andrews will provide consultation in the area of parent education related to language/literacy. She has taken the lead to develop materials appropriate for parents and dormitory staff. Discussion is underway regarding the establishment of committees at NMSD and TSD to incorporate input and ideas from parents and dormitory staff.

5. Technology Development and Dissemination: The purpose of including this strand is to share information related to this language/literacy project with parents, professionals, and to the Deaf community on an ongoing basis through various publications; to provide information to parents and others through videoconferencing and the World Wide Web;

to eventually develop videotapes and a CD-ROM for dissemination nationwide, consisting of a training package in bilingual/ESL instruction for teachers of deaf and hard-of-hearing children. Carla Fenner, Assistant Project Director, will oversee the dissemination of information and development of technology.

The use of technology is critical° to this project. We believe that teachers can use technology to become better teachers rather than using technology to teach. For this reason, the decision was made to purchase digital cameras for each teacher participating in the project, both at NMSD and TSD. The digital cameras will reinforce the use of ASL and English as part of language-experience stories. We will also purchase a videocamera for classroom use to (a) begin collecting language samples and assessing students' language and literacy levels, and (b) to provide discussion and feedback to teachers related to their use of bilingual/ESL approaches to instruction. Additionally, some computer equipment has been purchased for administrative purposes.

We feel it is important to share what we are doing with others in the field of deaf education. Information about the project was disseminated° over the Internet through the Deaf Administrators List Serve. An article was also submitted to the **NAD Broadcaster**. The response from schools throughout the U.S. and Europe has been astonishing. We've received numerous requests from administrators wanting to participate in the project or to have Nover become consultant to assist in the implementation of a similar project at their schools. While we cannot accommodate their requests at this time, this is a clear indication of the need for change in deaf education throughout the country.

Additionally, the **Albuquerque Journal**, a local newspaper, published an extensive article early January 1998 about NMSD's grant project and accomplishments to date.

All of the activities described above have taken place from October through December. So you can see that in a very short time, teachers and administrators at NMSD and TSD have jumped in with both feet and are working hard on this project to make significant changes in the area of literacy in deaf education.

For more information, contact Carla Fenner at ☎(505) 827-6743 or ❖cfen@nmsd.k12.nm.us.

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implementation: (*noun*) putting a plan or strategy into action.

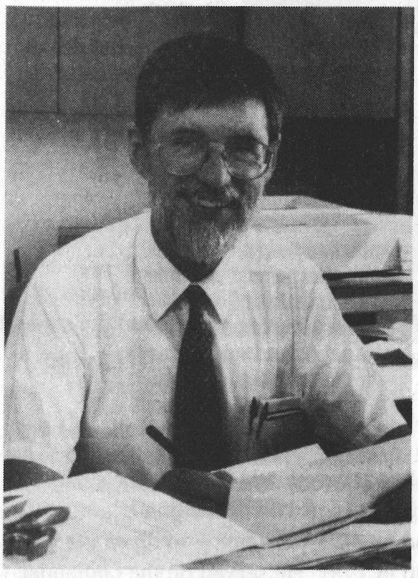
dissemination: (*noun*) distribution; spreading (here, of published or videotaped material).

critical: (*adjective*) here, vitally important.

disseminated: (*verb, past tense*) distributed; spread.

BESTOWING THE HONORS

Gallaudet University will award honorary doctorates during its 129th commencement exercises on May 15 to two internationally known leaders who have championed for the rights of deaf people throughout the world: Dr. **Yerker Andersson**, retired professor of sociology and founding chair of the Department of Deaf Studies at Gallaudet, and **Liisa Kauppinen** of Finland, General Secretariat of the World Federation of the Deaf. The commencement address will be given by **Greg Hlibok**, Class of 1989.



Dr. Yerker Andersson

Gallaudet is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Deaf President Now movement, a watershed event that occurred in March 1988 and led to the appointment of Gallaudet's first deaf president. Hlibok was the president of the Student Body Government at that time and served as a student leader of the movement. One of the highlights of that week was his appointment as ABC Person of the Week. He also appeared on the ***MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour*** and ***Nightline*** on March 9, 1988.

Greg Hlibok

Upon graduating from Gallaudet, he worked for a prestigious law firm, Milbank, Hadley, Tweed, and McCloy, as a legal assistant in the banking department, which led to his decision to enter Hofstra University School of Law. After receiving his J.D. in May 1994 and becoming a member of the American Bar Association and the New York County Bar Association, he

Dr. Ronald E. Nomeland

devoted two years to practicing general law in New York before accepting an offer from Merrill Lynch to team up with his brother, **Stephen**, as a Financial Consultant serving mainly deaf and hard-of-hearing clients nationwide. (Stephen Hlibok was one of the prime movers of DPN. He helped plan the May 1 rally that roused and united the student population.) They're both currently working in Columbia, Maryland.

Andersson, a native of Sweden, came to the United States in 1955 to study at Gallaudet received his Bachelor's degree in Sociology in 1960, his Master's degree from Columbia University in 1962, and his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Maryland in 1981. He served on the Gallaudet faculty for 36 years and earned the Gallaudet University Distinguished Faculty Award in 1992. He also received the Powrie V. Doctor Medallion in 1986, and when he retired from Gallaudet in 1996, received Professor Emeritus honors.

He is being recognized for his world leadership in serving deaf people. He served as vice president and then president of the WFD. In 1995, President Clinton appointed him to the National Council on Disability, where he currently chairs the International Committee. He has been an inspirational trainer and collaborator with deaf leaders in Spain, Argentina, China, Australia, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Kenya, and Italy. In each country, he has been the champion of the political, linguistic, and cultural self-determination of deaf people. Even in retirement. he has been a frequent consultant to the United Nations/UNESCO on the rights of people with disabilities.

Kauppinen has for many years given tirelessly of herself to the Deaf community in Finland. She has contributed much of her time and energy as an organizer for local clubs for the deaf and also worked for improved education and employment for deaf children and adults. In 1973, she became the full-time professional Executive Director of the Finnish Association of the Deaf. From that position, she was elected to the General Secretariat of the WFD in 1987. She is currently President of the WFD and Executive Director of the Finnish Federation of the Deaf. In 1991, the Gallaudet University Alumni Association presented her with the Edward Miner Gallaudet Award, which is given to international or national leaders, deaf or hearing, working to promote the well-being of deaf people of the world.

Professor Emeritus honors will be given to Dr. **Ronald E. Nomeland** and Dr. **Anne Spragins-Harmuth**.

Nomeland is a 1958 graduate of Gallaudet whose service to the University spanned 35 years. He has been a pioneer in media, materials development, instructional-systems design, captioning, and computer-assisted instruction with deaf students. He was founder and chair of the Gallaudet University Department of Educational Technology and trained several generations of skilled deaf and hearing educational-technology specialists. He earned Master's degrees at CSUN and the University of Maryland, and a Ph.D. at Syracuse University.

Spragins-Harmuth is a nationally recognized school psychologist who came to Gallaudet College in 1977 to design and establish the graduate program in School Psychology. No other graduate program in school psychology specializes in training well-qualified deaf and hearing school psychologists to work with deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deaf-blind students. She has earned the distinguished "Fellow" rank in the American Psychological Association School Psychologist Division. In 1996. she received the Gallaudet University Outstanding Graduate Faculty award.

CHEETAH ON CAMPUS

On January 22, The Network Connection, Inc., announced the implementation° of a state-of-the-art language lab for sign-language instruction-on-demand for Gallaudet University students.

The Department of Foreign Languages at Gallaudet equipped the language lab with a TNCi Cheetah® video server equipped to service up to 60 simultaneous video users with 32 hours of stored digital video/audio. The Cheetah server is an on-demand server that will service all users with simultaneous transmission. Each user could be working on the same (or different) digitized video or audio program(s) at the same time, and at their own pace. One student can begin work at 10 a.m., while other students can begin at various intervals throughout the morning. All students enjoy immediate access to the same program and at whatever place in that program they want to begin.

Use of the system includes editing and creation of American, English and French sign-language instruction, and student/faculty training in these languages. A typical ASL course includes the ability for the student to search the video content for a given phrase or word and then view all of the appearances of that sign. Courses include both captions and audio versions of the specific sign. Specific sessions can be reviewed as often as necessary and video/audio can be frozen by frame for intense analysis. Accompanying windows allow students to access outlines of major points, exercises, or analyses of texts. The windows can also contain notes and questions. The system also provides access to the campus network for E-mail and the Internet.

Background: TNCi designs, manufactures, and distributes the Cheetah family of video-server platforms that enable the storage and delivery of up to 700 hours of digital video/audio

data to up to 300 simultaneous video/audio users over standard local-area networks. Cheetah servers are used to bring interactive, on-demand, full-motion video training, education, and entertainment to the networked client computers in the corporate, home, educational, and aircraft (AirView®), cruise-ship (CruiseView®), train- (TrainView®), and hotel- (InnView®) travel-related entertainment and transport environments. For more information about TNCi, check out its Websites: ✱http://tnc.www.com, or ✱http://www.cameronassoc.com.

implementation: (*noun*) putting a plan into action; launch.

AN "ABSOLUTELY AMAZING" GIFT: C.I.D. GETS A $10 MILLION CHALLENGE

On January 13, Central Institute for the Deaf announced it had received a $10 million lead challenge gift for its recently launched capital campaign. The announcement of this initial campaign gift by an anonymous donor was made jointly by **Donald W. Nielsen**, Ph.D., Executive Director, and the campaign committee, led by **Robert G. Clark**, president of CID's Board of Managers and President of Clayco Construction Co.

"We're delighted to have received one of the largest commitments ever given to a St. Louis non-profit organization," said Clark. "Combined with matching gifts from others, this gift will greatly assist CID in a complete renovation of its oral school for deaf children and construction of a new state-of-the-art research facility."

CID has spent the last several years planning for its future. The resulting long-term campus master plan, based on a detailed strategic program assessment, was shared with the broader community in the Millennium series in the spring of 1997. Since then, a major capital campaign has been organized to enable CID to undertake the first phase components of that plan.

"Our benefactor is impressed with the plans and is challenging us to raise $15 million in the next five years in order to receive the full $10 million," said Clark. "This absolutely amazing initial gift and significant participation from other donors will ensure the long-term future and vitality of CID as a world-class institution based here in St. Louis."

According to the donor, "The work being done at CID to benefit hearing-impaired people is stellar. We are pleased to be part of upgrading the environment in which this critical work will continue in the decades ahead."

The capital campaign committee includes **Theodore M. Armstrong**, **Virginia J. Browning**, Robert G. Clark, **Thomas R. Jayne**, **Joanne Knight**, **Barbara Morriss**, **Hugh Scott III**, **John D. Weil**, and **Douglas H. Yeager**. Former U.S. Senator **Thomas Eagleton** is honorary chairperson.

"We are all eager to meet the terms of the challenge grant," said Clark, speaking on behalf of the committee. "We know that our impact on the quality of life for hearing-impaired children and adults [*sic*] will be tremendous."

Dr. Nielsen noted that hearing impairment [*sic*] is now the #1 disability in the United States, affecting more than 3 million children and 25 million adults and their families. CID is at the leading edge of research and trains audiologists, teachers and scientists from around the world. School children and graduate students have come to CID from 38 countries and most of the 50 states.

"Our students, teachers, researchers and clinicians have been studying and working in outdated facilities, many of which have not been updated in decades," said Nielsen. "The school building is operating on mechanical systems installed just after World War I. Our researchers work in labs and classrooms built in the early 50s.

"Our children deserve acoustically sound, technologically up-to-date, comfortable learning environments, as do our teachers. And, if we expect continuing breakthroughs into the causes of and cures for deafness in this highly sophisticated field, we need breakthrough facilities. We are extremely grateful to our benefactor for demonstrating the vision to make this substantial leadership gift."

CID's note: This major gift typifies a national trend. Non-profit organizations in other communities, and not just universities, are receiving "megagifts" as never before. The School District of Philadelphia received $13.8 million from the William Penn Foundation. The Saint Paul Foundation reported receiving a $25 million gift, from retiring local executive **Eugene Fry**. The U.S. Committee for UNICEF received $8.6 million from **Florence L. Cook**. It also is expected that **Ted Turner's** example of giving an unprecedented gift of $1 billion to the United Nations will serve as encouragement for other extremely wealthy persons to give from their asset base and not just from disposable income.

For more information on large gifts, see supplements to the **New York Times** of December 8, 1997, the December 1997 issue of **Forbes**, and the **Boston Globe**, week of December 15, 1997.

✏ **Our question:** How many of these mega-dollar gifts are benefiting ASL-affirmative schools and programs for deaf children and adults? We wonder.—Editors

Globe-trotter: William W. Clark, Ph.D., Director of Professional Services at CID, was a featured speaker at an international conference of physicians and educators January 28-31 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Dr. Clark was invited by the founder of Hearing International - Thailand to present information at the conference, which was co-sponsored by the World Health Organization and the International Federation of Otolaryngological Societies. The meeting was held in conjunction with the 50th

anniversary of WHO and Hearing International - Thailand.

He made two presentations, one on noise-induced hearing loss and one on CID.

Prior to the opening of the conference, Dr. Clark served on a panel of experts at a symposium discussing educational methods for teaching deaf children in Thailand. He focused his remarks on the educational benefits of cochlear implants in children, a topic under study at CID through the auspices of a 5-year National Institutes of Health grant.

Last fall, Dr. Clark was the only non-governmental member of the U.S. delegation at a WHO conference in Geneva, Switzerland. In March, he is among the presenters in Stockholm, Sweden, at an international conference on noise.

Background: CID was founded in 1914 by Dr. **Max Goldstein**. It's the only institution in the world combining oral education for deaf children, scientific research, clinical services and graduate education in all three areas. Its school is one of only four private oral schools for children from birth through age 15. Its curricula and tests are used in all 50 states and in 34 countries.

Through its Center for Biology of Hearing and Deafness, and its Center for Childhood Deafness and Adult Aural Rehabilitation, CID is at the forefront of research into causes of and solutions to hearing impairment [*sic*]. CID also provides graduate-level training for teachers, audiologists and scientists through a financially independent affiliation with Washington University.

A BOOST FROM FLEET

Rochester School for the Deaf has received a $3,000 grant from Fleet Bank (formerly called Norstar Bank) to support two special learning programs: the Shared Reading Project and Adventures in Education.

The nationally developed Shared Reading Project is designed to teach parents and other caregivers how to read to their deaf children using ASL and how to make book-sharing most effective.

RSD's Adventures in Education program, which began in 1993, annually brings nationally known adventurers to campus in a unique student-learning experience. During the day, guest lecturers participate in activities with students, then provide an evening lecture that's open to the general public.

Guests have included **Ann E. Bancroft**, the first woman explorer to reach the North and South Poles over ice; Dr. **Robert Ballard**, world-renowned deep-sea explorer; **Dan Buettner**, a long-distance bicyclist who has traversed five continents; **Fred Haise**, Apollo 13 astronaut; and **Jan Reynolds**, world-class athlete, writer, photographer and lecturer.

On the wall! (again): The artwork of three RSD students was recently part of a traveling New York exhibition, *Making Tomorrow's Deaf Poets and Artists Today*. The exhibition, sponsored by the New York State Association of Educators of the Deaf, was designed to demonstrate the creative skills of New York State's deaf students 12 through 14 years of age. It was on display at RSD February 16-27.

The participating RSD students were 9th-graders **Derek Miller**, **Sjon Turner**, and **Chris Alvarez**. Their drawings and computer-generated art was developed in an animation art class taught by **Adriana Slutzky**. "We're pleased that the state association has created an opportunity for students to share their creativity with each other," she said.

Other participating schools and programs for the deaf included Lake Grove, Cleary, St. Joseph's, St. Francis, St. Mary's, Nassau, BOCES, J.H.S. 47, and New York School for the Deaf (Fanwood).

Miller, 13, is the son of **Tom** and **Susan Miller** of Rochester. Alvarez, 14, is the son of **Tony** and **Adia Cenzi** of Greece. Turner, 13, is the son of **JoAnne Bass** of Rochester. He was also selected to exhibit in the Scholastic Art Exhibition February 2 to March 13 at the Monroe Community College's Damon Center in downtown Rochester.

RSD honors a volunteer: Renie Stanbrook of Ontario, New York, has been named 1997 Volunteer of the Year at RSD. She's one of more than 350 volunteers who contributed 3,000 hours of volunteer time at RSD in 1997.

Stanbrook was introduced to RSD 4 years ago by Junior/Senior High School Principal **Pamela Hatch**. Since them she has volunteered in many areas of RSD from office work to mailings, including the RSD newsletter, **Building Futures**. She also has contributed her time on can and bottle drives to raise funds for students to take an exchange trip to France.

"Renie is enthusiastic in her commitment to advancing RSD," said **Fran Murphy**, volunteer coordinator. "She is the kind of person who has set a standard among volunteers at RSD."

Stanbrook said, "Everyone, including me, needs to feel needed. RSD has appreciated what I do and I feel that I belong to the RSD family. I find myself wanting to make greater and greater contributions to the staff and students."

Volunteers are being enlisted for 1998 to support office work and special events, including the RSD Spring Festival set for June 6.

✏ **What about you?** Your local school or program for the deaf probably needs volunteers too. Why not contact the principal's or director's office and ask?—Editors

✖✖✖photo here✖✖✖

NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN

On February 4, DEAF Incorporated (St. Paul, Minnesota) announced the award of a $15,000 grant from the AT&T Local Business Council for the Deaf Adult Education Curriculum Project. The Local Business Council, comprised of representatives from operating business units in the Twin Cities metro area, meets regularly to discuss how to use philanthropic funds for various projects. AT&T representative **Teresa Lynch** said, "DEAF's project demonstrates an

Support for an "innovative approach": DEAF Executive Director Lori Breslow (left) receives a check from AT&T's Teresa Lynch, AT&T.

innovative approach in using technology to improve the lifelong learning process for Deaf adults, which holds potential for improving individual economic status."

DEAF has been and continues to be the sole nonprofit organization providing educational classes for Deaf adults in the state of Minnesota. Due to rapid changes in technology, DEAF believes new continuing education programs and postsecondary education programs need to be developed to lessen and ultimately prevent gaps in educational and employment accessibility for Deaf and hard-of-hearing adults. "We are encouraged by AT&T's support of this important project," said **Lori Breslow**, DEAF Executive Director. "The people of AT&T recognize the need for investing financial resources to link education and technology, especially important for traditionally underserved communities."

Computer literacy is increasingly a preferred skill among employers today. The explosion of technology in our everyday lives does not necessarily mean equal access. Technology such as computers, videos, laser disks, and CD ROMs, can be tools for expanding critical thinking, fostering creativity and self-expression, and gaining access to tremendous volumes of information for the adult learner. For example, computer literacy means being able to use the Internet or E-mail. According to a 1994 report, those whose literacy skills are limited be may among the "have-nots" of the information society.

Funding for the Deaf Adult Education Curriculum Project will allow DEAF to purchase and use multimedia software to create new CD-ROM learning tools to build reading, language, and computer skills of Deaf adult learners. Said **Marilyn Dodge**, Adult Education Manager, "Teachers need to learn about technology too! New software can allow teachers to create learning tools that will enhance the learning process. We are most excited about this project!"

DEAF has also nearly completed a multimedia curriculum project funded through the Midwest Center for Postsecondary Outreach (MCPO) at St. Paul Technical College.* Two CD-ROMs, "Basic Computer Skills" and "How To Use The Internet," developed for deaf learners at the postsecondary and continuing-education level, will be available for distribution this Spring.

For more information about this or other DEAF programs, contact **Michael Zeledon** at ☎(612) 297-6704 (TTY), ❒(612) 297-6766 (FAX), or via E-mail at ❖deafinc@deafinc.org.

*For details on the MCPO, see "Reaching the Midwest" in the December 1997 "News Briefs," pp. 7-8.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

In late January, Rosa Parks Elementary School in Lexington, Kentucky, hooked up a TTY. The Ohio Casualty Company, an insurance company based in Cincinnati, had just gotten one. What better way to test Ohio Casualty's new TTY, but with a group of students from the school? That was the idea, but it didn't quite work as planned.

Mary Fehrenbach teaches at Rosa Parks. Her husband, **Bob**, works at Ohio Casualty. The students, many of whom had never used a TTY before, tried to call Ohio Casualty, but couldn't get through via TTY. The voice line worked fine. But they wanted to use the TTY.

So they used their problem-solving skills and called a TTY owner in Lexington whom Fehrenbach knows. The kids still got to experience what it's like communicating by phone with a TTY user. "We don't count it as a failure," she said. They would continue to try to get it working with Ohio Casualty, and try reconnecting, probably with a few students at a time.

Rosa Parks, in Beaumont, houses the district's deaf program, which includes about 20 students. Fehrenbach told **Linda Johnson** of the Lexington **Herald-Leader** that some classes are already learning sign language, and officials plan to take that program schoolwide soon.

✏ This is a free adaptation of Linda Johnson's report, "Students get to test telephone for deaf," originally published in the January 24 issue of the Lexington **Herald-Leader**, and carried on NJ-L. ➤

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS, & FESTIVALS

LIFE, LIBERTY, SMART MONEY, & CLASSIFIERS

Kirtland Community College's ASL classes, along with MIRID VI and the Division on Deafness, have previously presented 5 highly-acclaimed bicultural workshops. The objective has always been that of "bridging the communication gap" between the deaf and hearing communities. This one, with pending CEUs, will be held March 21-22, at the MacMullan Conference Center in Higgins Lake, Michigan.

The focus is on "promised" rights. The U.S. Constitution guarantees ALL citizens equal rights. But for years, many of the deaf have not felt that they enjoyed the same quality of life afforded to the hearing. No one wants "second-class-citizen" treatment. This workshop will enlighten, encourage, and empower those attending (deaf and hearing) to stand tall and take charge.

"LIFE": Society often associates "the better life" with the ability to save and make money. Greg Hlibok is a Gallaudet graduate end lawyer who took down his shingle to become an investment counselor with Merrill Lynch. [See Gallaudet University item above.] He will explain (in ASL with a voice interpreter) how to wisely turn a few dollars from savings into a stock portfolio that will help maintain a comfortable lifestyle after retirement.

"LIBERTY": Following Gallaudet University's DPN 10 celebration (teleconferenced all over the world March 13 as a free download), Greg Hlibok will bring his expertise and memories to Roscommon County. He is a dynamic speaker and inspiration for today's "I-don't-know-how'' generation. His second presentation at Kirtland's workshop will focus on "Deaf empowerment."

"PURSUIT OF EQUALITY": "Deaf, Deaf World" is the interactive role-play program presented by VOICE, an interpreter-referral agency based in Saginaw, Michigan, where several MIRID VI members work. The audience now has the opportunity to turn the tables by reversing the "power." The Deaf are now the business and service providers (bankers, police, lawyers, etc.) and the hearing now experience the "communication handicap.''

Saturday Night LIVE! The activities planned for evening-social hours will have something for everyone. Three breakout sessions will improve ASL and Deaf-Cultural skills and make attendees want to stay up late. **Bruce King**, CI-CT, ex-president of OCRID (Ohio), presents "Classifiers—the unmarked hand shapes;" **Terri Stonecipher** presents "Fingerspelling—training the eyes;" and **Walter Dawe** presents "Deaf Club—Lucky 52."

"LLPE": On Sunday (sandwiched between a big breakfast and a final family-style lunch), **Kimerie Mitchell** will give the final presentation: "LLPE by way of the Super Highway: Deaf Resources on the Internet." Mitchell is a high-school English teacher from Rochester, Michigan who has recently written a book on teaching the Internet. Says **Brenda Dawe**, who's coordinating the workshop, "She has been to almost all of our previous workshops and shares our passion for offering timely and useful information to both cultures. Kim's research of Deaf sites and information will save everyone time and frustration as she tells us what is out there to arm us for our own fight for equality."

THERE! Does this interest you enough to claim your seat in the bicultural arena? The pre-registration fee of $100 includes lodging and meals. Come meet one of your own history-makers and the interpreters who treasure this type of interaction outside the workfield. Call or fax now: Brenda Dawe, ☎(517) 389-4123 (TTY); ❐(517) 275-8745 (FAX). ❖bdawe@juno.com (E-mail). Kirtland Community College is located at 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653.

SCHOOL NURSES: NETWORKING AT WPSD

The Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf is hosting the Northeastern Regional Association of School Nurses for the Deaf on April 17, 18, and 19. The nursing staff will provide an educational program focusing on the medical needs of deaf students. There will also be time for sharing of procedures, policies, and concerns. Contact: **Rose Farber**, RN, BS.Ed., WPSD, 300 East Swissvale Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1469. ☎(412) 244-4212; ❐(412) 244-4223 (FAX).

SIGNS OF SPRING

Deaf Adult Services (Buffalo, New York) will host Silent Weekend '98 from Friday through Sunday, April 24-26. This is a 3-day sign-language-only total-immersion event, the only one of its kind in Western New York. It will offer educational workshops, entertainment, and *lots* of fun. The goal: to increase participants' understanding of ASL and Deaf Culture in a relaxing, non-threatening environment. The setting: Camp Lakeland, New York, a beautiful, rustic, camp-like area.

Deaf persons and their families are welcome to participate, as are beginning to advanced sign-language or interpreting students, interpreters, teachers, and parents of deaf children. The range of signing abilities will vary greatly, but the less-skilled attendees need not worry, as it's designed to accommodate all. Activities will focus on ASL, fingerspelling, Deaf Culture, ASL linguistics, conversational sign-language practice, facial expressions, and more. They'll be led by teams of volunteers from the Deaf community and persons working in the "Deaf issues" field.

Participants can enjoy the beautiful surroundings while learning. Social time, another low-stress way to learn, encourages conversation and allows participants to "put into practice" what is learned during the educational activities. The social angle is vitally important.

DAS' Silent Dinners have proven to be a tremendous success, often with turnouts of over 60 people. With the Silent Weekend, DAS hopes to combine the knowledge and information of the classroom with the sheer fun of the Silent Dinners.

Registration deadline is Friday, March 27. Contact: DAS, 491 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202; ☎(716) 885-4955 (TTY); ☎(716) 885-DEAF (3323—Voice); ❐(716) 885-3384 (FAX).

"47" CELEBRATES ITS 90TH

The "47" Alumni Association of the Deaf, Inc. will celebrate the 90th anniversary of J.H.S. 47 School for the Deaf, New York City's only public school for deaf students, with 4 days of events starting Thursday, June 11, with an Alumni Open House at "47." On Friday, June 12, a 90th Anniversary Show will be held at "47," and on Friday, June 13, there be a picnic in Eisenhower Park, Long Island. The highlight of the celebration will be a luncheon aboard the

Spirit of New York, a magnificent 3-deck cruise ship, on Sunday, June 14. The *Spirit* is located at the Chelsea Pier on 23rd street and 12th Avenue in Manhattan. Boarding time is 10 a.m.; the *Spirit* will return to port at 2:30 p.m. Capacity is limited to 500 persons. All are welcome: graduates, former students, and friends of "47."

For more information, contact the "47" Alumni Association of the Deaf, Inc., J.H.S. 47 School for the Deaf, 225 East 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010; ☎(212) 685-9614 (FAX). Deadline is March 31.

LEADERSHIP & MORE: JR. NAD AT CSDF

For the second time since 1988, the California School for the Deaf, Fremont (CSDF) will host the Junior National Association of the Deaf's National Convention, The 16th Biennial National Convention will be held at CSDF from July 24 to 29. This year's theme is "Preparing for the 21st Century—Deaf Youth's Perspective."

Over 400 participants and chaperones from all over the United States are expected, including several from foreign countries. Approximately 200 CSDF staff members, students, and community representatives will be involved in planning, organizing, and running the convention.

This year's convention features an opening ceremony, testimonial dinner, leadership activities, contests, plenary sessions, leadership mini-courses, awards, debate, and banquet. The activities are focused on preparing participants for leadership roles in the 21st century through the use of technology and by focusing on changing trends in politics.

Financial contributions to cover the convention expenses are being sought. Contact **Diana Herron Rhodes** at ☎(510) 794-3708 (TTY), ❐(510) 794-9250 (FAX), or ❖diana@csdf.cde.ca.gov (E-mail) or write to her at California School for the Deaf, Outreach Division, 39350 Gallaudet Drive, Fremont, CA 94538. A package complete with letter and supporting documents explaining the event will be mailed out to companies and organizations as soon as possible.

As one of the motivational posters pus it: "TEAMWORK: COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING . . . KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS . . . WORKING TOGETHER IS A SUCCESS." The combined efforts of schools, social organizations, families and friends, and the business community will help increase deaf children's success in life, strengthening our community and society in general.

For more information about CSDF and the Jr. NAD Convention, please visit the Website at ✱www.csdf.k12.ca.us. This wonderful homepage was designed and developed by CSDF high-school students.

Background: The Jr. NAD was established to provide leadership training to young deaf students to help them prepare for future leadership roles in the community. Jr. NAD chapters were set up nationwide in state schools for the deaf and other academic programs serving deaf students. Every other year, Jr. NAD chapters, along with their respective schools, host national conventions. Between conventions, regional conferences are held to maintain continuity in providing leadership enrichment.

Leadership-training programs are crucial to the social and educational growth of deaf children. When students return to school from a Jr. NAD convention or Youth Leadership Camp, staff members and teachers see remarkable growth in their self-esteem, motivation, and social skills. Also, students share their experiences with other students, which stimulates them to attend future leadership-training programs. A number of today's successful deaf adults who are making positive contributions to our society have participated in some kind of leadership-training program, such as the YLC. It's a good investment.

LOTS OF FUN, NO SUDS

Signs of Sobriety, Inc., will host a 4-Day "SoberCamp for Deaf Adults in Recovery and their Families" at Camp Kirby in Upper Black Eddy, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, from August 24 to 27.

This is SOS' third annual SoberCamp. The program includes a wide range of activities for families, single or married adults, and children. Fun activities and support programs for children and teenagers will be provided. 60 beds are available. Call SOS for an application to make a reservation.

SOS is seeking proposals on a variety of topics for the camp program. Topics should be relevant to sobriety maintenance, healthy lifestyle, mental, physical, and spiritual wellness, safe recreation, and leadership skills If you have worked with this population or have tools that help you maintain sobriety, SOS wants your proposal.

To receive an application, send a letter of interest with your full name, mailing address, TTY, voice telephone, or fax numbers, and E-mail address to: Signs of Sobriety, Inc., 865 Lower Ferry Road, Suite B9, Ewing, NJ 08628. Or call ☎(609) 882-7177 (TTY); ☎❐(609) 882-7677 (Voice/FAX); ❖SOSNJ@juno.com (E-mail).

S.E.R.I.D. CONFERENCE

The Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness will hold its 28th Annual Conference, *Expanding Horizons: A Peak into the 21st Century*, at the Radisson Hotel in Asheville, North Carolina, November 1-4. Workshops on education, technology, vocational opportunities, and more will be offered.

For additional information, contact **Terry Kemp**, NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, P.O. Box 26053, Raleigh, N.C. 27611 or call ☎(919) 733-5924 (TTY) or ☎(919) 733-3364 (Voice).

✎✎✎ CALL FOR PAPERS ✎✎✎

The *Sixth International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research* (TISLR 98) will be held November 12-15. It's is co-sponsored by the Gallaudet University Department of ASL, Linguistics, and Interpretation, the School of Communication, and the College of Continuing Education. All meetings will take place in the Gallaudet

University Kellogg Conference Center (GUKCC). It will be conducted in ASL and English. Papers are welcome on any aspect of research and theory about sign language, including linguistic structure, language acquisition, language contact and bilingualism, variation, discourse analysis, poetics and metaphor, psycholinguistic and neuropsychological processing, language assessment, gesture/sign relations, research methodology (including transcription and coding systems, computer-based data management and networking), and language attitudes.

The conference formally opens Thursday evening, November 12. A pre-conference workshop to be held Thursday afternoon (2-5 p.m.) will provide an introduction to basic linguistic concepts, linguistic terminology, and the linguistic structure of sign languages. This workshop is designed for people with no previous exposure to linguistics, to enhance their participation in the conference.

Presentation modes will be 40-minute papers, special-interest workshops, research symposia, and posters.

Research symposia will be 2 hours and will consist of three 30-minute papers on a given topic followed by a 30-minute general discussion involving the audience. Organizers of a symposium should submit a 150-word abstract summarizing the topics and goals of the symposium along with a 250-word abstract for each research paper.

40-minute papers will consist of 30 minutes of presentation and 10 minutes of discussion. **Poster sessions** will be 2 hours long. Paper and poster authors should submit a 250-word abstract.

Workshop sessions will be 90 minutes and geared toward a special-interest topic. Workshop organizers should submit a 250-word abstract stating the workshop topic, goals, intended audience, and method (e.g. discussion, hands-on, etc.).

Submissions will be accepted by mail or E-mail; no faxed submissions will be accepted. Because they will be considered anonymously, each submission must have the author and address information listed separately from the abstract. If submitting by E-mail, please adhere to the following format. Each bullet represents a new line:

Title of presentation: • Author(s) and affiliation(s): • Postal address: • Telephone and fax numbers:• E-mail address: • • • (3 blank lines) • Title of presentation • Research Area • Presentation mode (symposium, 40-minute paper, workshop, poster) • Abstract

Send E-mail submissions to:
❖submit_tisir@gallua.gallaudet.edu

If submitting by regular mail, please include the first block (title/author/address information) on a separate cover sheet and the second block (title, research area and presentation mode) on the abstract itself. For each submission, mail 5 copies of the title and abstract and 1 copy of the cover sheet to:

Dr. **Mike Kemp**, Department Chair
TISLR 98 Abstracts
Department of ASL, Linguistics, and Interpretation
Gallaudet University
800 Florida Ave. NE
Washington, D.C. 20002 (USA)

All submissions must be received by Friday, April 17. The program will be announced by June 30.

To assist the interpreters in preparing for presentations and thereby ensuring their quality, drafts of accepted papers must be submitted by October 1.

Communications about the conference, including registration, lodging, and program information, are being handled via the conference Website: ✱http://www.gallaudet.edu/~aslweb/tislr98/

Questions specifically concerning the program can be E-mailed to ❖info_tislr@gallua.gallaudet.edu.

BRIEFLY NOTED

➨ *The National Training Conference on Employment of Federal Employees Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing* will be held April 14-16 at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Contact: **Eric F. Spanbauer**, OASA (M&RA) EEO Agency, Crystal Mall 4, Suite 207, 1941 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202-450; ❒(703) 607-2042 (FAX); ❖spanbef@hqda.army.mil.

➨ *Empowerment Through Partnerships: PEPNet '98 Biennial Conference on Postsecondary Education for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing*, will be held April 29-May 2, at the Holiday Inn, International Drive, Orlando, Florida. Contact: **Marcia Kolvitz**, Outreach/Training Coordinator, Postsecondary Education Consortium, University of Tennessee, 2229 Dunford Hall, Knoxville, TN 37996-4020; ☎(423) 974-8428 (TTY); ☎(423) 974-8427 (Voice); ❒(423) 974-3522 (FAX); ❖pec@utk.edu.

➨ *Deaf People in Hitler's Europe (1933-1945)* will be held June 21-24 at the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center. Contact: Professors **John Schuchman** and **Donna Ryan** of Gallaudet's History and Government Department at ☎(202) 651-5474 (TTY/Voice, ❒(202) 651-5652 (FAX); ❖jsschuchmant@gallua.gallaudet.edu or ❖dfryan@gallua.gallaudet.edu.

➨ The *National NAD Conference* will be held July 7-11 in San Antonio, Texas. Theme: "Branding Our Future: Leading, Not Lassoed." ❖NADHQ@juno.com.

➨ The *16th Annual National Black Deaf Conference* will be held Monday, August 10, through Sunday, August 16, at the Westin Hotel in downtown Indianapolis. Host: Indianapolis Black Deaf Advocates. Theme: "The Black Deaf Community: Building Collaborative Partnerships." Contacts: **Donald Tinsley** at ☎(317) 298-3705 (TTY/Voice) or ☎(317) 232-1143 (TTY/Voice), or **Lori M. Qadir**, Indianapolis Black Deaf Advocates, P.O. Box 53334, Indianapolis, IN 46253-0334; ☎(317) 931-0757 (TTY) or ☎(317) 475-2106 (Voice). ❖ICBDA@aol.com.

Workshops will be held on three days: afternoons on August 12 and 13, and all day on August 14. Possible topics include: ASL, NBDA history, the ADA, interpreter training, advocacy, strengthening local chapters through community outreach, networking, fundraising, organization development,

public speaking, community action, elderly Black Deaf people, financial investment and retirement, parliamentary procedure, history of black deaf schools, anything you want to know about computers, hearing and deaf working relationships, youth leadership training, women's issues, TRS.

✏ **Editors' note:** the deadline for submitting proposals was January 31. We received the E-mailed announcement on January 27.

➨ The 1998 National Congress of Jewish Deaf Convention (22nd Biennial Convention), will be held August 11-15, at Universal City, California. Host: Temple Beth Solomon of the Deaf. Contact: Convention Chair **Fred Lovitch**, ☎(818) 896-6721 (TTY), ☎(818) 899-2202 (Voice), ❐(818) 899-2123 (FAX), ❖flovitch@aol.com.

➨ *The First International Conference on Deaf Education & Technology: "Tools for the 21st Century*," will be held November 17-22, in conjunction with Deaf Awareness Week, in Bermuda. Deadline for proposals is March 30. Contact: **Jennifer Jeffers-Grant**, Chair, 1st International Conference on Deafness, P.O. Box 1749, Hamilton HM GX, Bermuda; ☎❐(441) 238-8116 (TTY/FAX); ❖jeffers@ibl.bm.

➨ The 28th Quadrennial Convention of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf will be held at Buena Vista Palace at Walt Disney Village World. near Orlando, Florida, July 22-24, 1999. Contacts: Convention Chair **Doris Berman**, ☎(954) 720-5619 (TTY) or ❐(954) 721-8852 (FAX); **Manny Golden**, ☎(904) 797-3817 (TTY) or ❐(904) 794-1679 (FAX).

"A SEA OF HANDS"

"Hands cutting the air/fingers and wrists moving/symmetrically poetically/a melody of movements expressing/and communicating with one motion/ more words than one can imagine."—DeaFestival announcement

On September 6, the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH) will present DeaFestival 98 in Louisville, a free day-long event (11 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.). As Dr. **Bobbie Beth Scoggins**, KCDHH Executive Director, puts it: "It's to promote and showcase the artwork and talent of deaf artists. And it's for the hearing audience to obtain a greater understanding and appreciation for who deaf people are and their culture."

The first DeaFestival was held at Kentucky School for the Deaf in Danville in 1996 and drew 3,000 people. Building on its initial success, KCDHH and its collaborative partners, including the Kentucky Association of the Deaf, organized DeaFestival '97. It was held in front of the State Capitol in Frankfort and drew an even bigger crowd: 4,000. BellSouth, a major sponsor of DeaFestival '96, returned to sponsor DeaFestival '97. Other sponsors included the Kentucky Arts Council, the Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Kentucky Historical Society, and numerous volunteers.

There were four major components: an Adult Tent, a Children's Program, a FolkLore program, and over 25 booths representing visual artists. Top Deaf performing artists participated in adult and children's programs. And KSD students, celebrating the school's 175th anniversary, participated, too. Scoggins says that DeaFestival '97 brought "awareness, culture, and a sea of hands to the front lawn of the Capitol."

All of this has paved the way for another exciting DeaFestival experience. Again, KCDHH is spearheading the effort and working closely with collaborating organizations and volunteers to make it even bigger and better. The Kentucky Center for the Arts, the major performing-arts cultural center in Louisville, has generously offered the use of its facilities, including professional staging, for DeaFestival 98. In the backyard of the Center, overlooking the Ohio River, is a park called the Belvedere. DeaFestival 98 festivities will "spill over" onto this area. It will be a unique indoor and outdoor event. BellSouth will be a major sponsor of the children's program while the Kentucky Arts Council will sponsor the Cultures and Traditions program.

On the morning of September 6, the Louisville Deaf Oral School (which has Total Communication classes now!) is holding its annual fundraiser and Deaf Awareness event. NightMoves, a fun-run, walk, bike, and skate event that attracts thousands of participating families annually, will take place from 8:30 to 11 a.m. The medal ceremonies for NightMoves will lead right into the Opening Ceremonies for DeaFestival '98!

The Mayor of Louisville has listed DeaFestival 98/ NightMoves on the River as one of Louisville's Top 40 Festivals for 1998. This is a tremendous honor, considering how Louisvillians are known to attend festivals in force! Predictions from the Mayor's Office indicate that as many as 8,500 to 10,000 people may attend.

KCDHH is working to add a new feature to DeaFestival 98—an Artists' Retreat! This will be held one week prior to the actual festival. Well-known national and local artists will share, learn, and create exciting artistic pieces. These pieces will be premiered at DeaFestival 98.

For more information regarding DeaFestival 98 or NightMoves on the River, or for a free DeaFestival poster, contact:

Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Ed.D, Executive Director

Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
632 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601
☎800-372-2907 (TTY/Voice)
☎(502) 573-2604 (TTY/Voice)
❒(502) 573-3594 (FAX)
❖KCDHH@mail.state.ky.us
✱www.state.ky.us/agencies/kcdhh

AGENCIES NETWORK!

The Second Annual Conference for Non-Profit Organizations Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals was held November 20-23, 1997, at the Cheyenne Mountain Conference Resort in Colorado Springs. Once again, the conference was a huge success; it drew approximately 60 attendees. Many agencies across the United States were represented and the need for support for these agencies was recognized as a significant need.

It was decided among the participants that a committee would be formed to evaluate the possibility of creating an organization that can serve the needs of non-profit organizations serving the deaf community. Members of this committee are: **John Moore**, Executive Director of the South Carolina Association of the Deaf; **Robert Cooper**, Executive Director of the Minnesota Foundation for Better Hearing and Speech; **Dan LaBrosse**, Deaf Community Services in Fairbanks, Alaska; **Kate Kubey**, HANDS in Chicago, Illinois; **Rob Roth**, Community Service Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Seattle, Washington; and **Stephanie Logan**, Executive Director of the Midwest L.E.A.D. Institute (Leadership through Education and Advocacy for the Deaf).

The committee will be developing various mission statements for recommendations at next year's conference, and compiling a directory of non-profit organizations serving the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. They will also be sending out a survey to executive directors of non-profit agencies serving the deaf and gathering the statistics from that survey to report at next year's conference. Any questions or comments? Contact Stephanie Logan at ❖slogan@services..computerland.net or call ☎1-800-380-DEAF (TTY/Voice).

WANTED: TRAINEES

The Minnesota Chemical Dependency Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals and the Educational Psychology Program of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota continue to provide the "Certificate in Chemical Dependency Rehabilitation for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Clients." The primary goal is to train rehabilitation-counseling personnel or aspiring students/professionals in related disciplines, in the rehabilitation of chemically-dependent Deaf/HH persons.

Each year, a 12-credit graduate-level certificate will be awarded to participants upon successful completion of the program. This includes a 2-week classroom session in Minneapolis during which participants earn 5 credits. The remaining 7 credits will be completed utilizing distance learning during the following year through special projects and practicum experiences.

The next classroom session will take place July 20-31. 25 participants will be selected. Each receives a stipend° that covers tuition, transportation, lodging, materials, and meals. Eligibility is based on the following criteria: persons who are currently employed by state-rehabilitation agencies; students in related disciplines, those who are able to serve clients of state-rehabilitation agencies; and those who provide services to a state agency/facility on a contractual basis.

For more information, please contact: **Holley Hybsa**, Training Coordinator, The Minnesota Chemical Dependency Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals, 2450 Riverside Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55454; ☎(612) 672-4402; ☎(612) 672-4516 (FAX).

stipend: payment; allotment.

DON'T FORGET SOPHIA'S BIRTHDAY!

a mini-quiz from **Alice L. Hagemeyer**

Happy Birthday, **Sophia Fowler Gallaudet**!

We will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of her birth on March 20. Most people know her as the wife of the Rev. **Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet** or as the mother of Dr. **Edward Miner Gallaudet**, first president of Gallaudet University. She is known affectionately as "Mother Gallaudet."

When she was 19, she became the 15th student to enroll at the "Hartford Asylum" (the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Connecticut), but could stay only two years. Two years later she married Thomas H. Gallaudet, who was 34. They had 8 children.

Even though she had little formal education, she was a loving wife and mother and a gracious hostess. She was happy and kept busy with family and social life. Obviously, she signed fluently. Edward M. Gallaudet has been, so far, the only president of Gallaudet University who was a native signer. He and his siblings undoubtedly learned to sign from her.

As we observe her birthday, we should learn more about her, especially when she lived in Washington, D.C. from 1857 to 1866. Several public libraries in the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area will pay tribute to "Mother Gallaudet" during the Clerc-Gallaudet Week, December 6-12, 1998.

Take this mini-quiz to test your knowledge about her.

1. Why did she move to Washington, D.C.?

2. How old was she then?
3. Did she come alone?
4. Who was the founder of the Institution?
5. Name of the leader and chairman of the Committee on Appropriations at
the U.S. Congress who got the most influence from Sophia Fowler Gallaudet for funding the Institution.
6. What happened on April 8, 1864?
7. Did Sophia stay in Washington, D.C., after her retirement?
8. When and where did she die?
9. Where was she buried?
10. How long had she been widow before her death?

Answers

1) She got a job offer to head the Domestic Department at the newly-established "Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind," which became "National Deaf-Mute College," was later renamed "Gallaudet College," and is now Gallaudet University.

2) 59 years old. She was born March 20, 1798.

3) No, she was accompanied by her youngest Edward Miner Gallaudet, who also got a job offer as superintendent of the Institution. She also served as matron of the new school, since Edward was young and unmarried.

4) **Amos Kendall**, former Postmaster General, who donated the parcel of land on which Gallaudet's northeast campus, Kendall Green, was established. He was the one who believed that Sophia should be hired along with her son to work at the Institution.

5) The Hon. **Thaddeus Stevens**.

6) Two years before Sophia retired from the Institution, President **Abraham Lincoln** signed the charter authorizing the Institution to grant undergraduate degrees to deaf students. This is still celebrated as "Charter Day" at Gallaudet University.

7) No, she moved back to Hartford, Connecticut.

8) May 13, 1877, in Washington, D.C. while visiting her son.

9) Cedar Hill Cemetery in Hartford, by the side of her husband.

10) 26 years.

✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍ ✍

A COLORFUL PANORAMA

"The knowledge of history is extremely useful. It lays before our eyes the great picture of the generations that have preceded us, and in relating the events which passed in their time we are taught to follow what is good, and to avoid what is bad in our own time."—**Laurent Clerc**, June 28, 1864

The Deaf History Series: 1998-99 has begun in Northern Virginia. All presentations will be held in the auditorium of the Arlington County Central Library, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia. (They are all on Monday evenings, beginning at 7 p.m.) This free series is presented by the Arlington County Public Library with the assistance of two co-sponsors: the Friends of Arlington County Public Library and the Arlington County Disability Advisory Commission. The auditorium is equipped with FM assistive-hearing devices. Sign-language and voice interpreters will be present for these programs. If any other special accommodations are necessary to attend or participate in this library event, please call a week in advance: ☎(703) 358-6320 (TTY) or ☎(703) 358-5988 (Voice).

April 13: Dr. **John Christiansen**, "Deaf President Now in Historical and Sociological Perspective"

Ten years ago, on March 13, 1988, the world witnessed the astonishing success of the Deaf President Now (DPN) movement. It paved the way for Dr. I. King Jordan to become the first deaf president of Gallaudet University. Dr. Christiansen will discuss three important issue connected with the uprising: 1) the events of DPN itself, 2) the celebration of the tenth anniversary of DPN at Gallaudet in March 1998, and 3) how DPN must be seen in its proper historical and social context to be fully appreciated and understood. Dr. Christiansen is a professor of Sociology at Gallaudet University. He and his colleague, **Sharon Barnartt**, are co-authors of **Deaf President Now! The 1988 Revolution at Gallaudet University**, published by Gallaudet University Press in 1995.*

*Reviewed in this issue.

Coming up (details later):

May 11: Dr. **Victor Galloway**, "Deaf Education in the Early Twentieth Century"

June 15: **John Lopez**, "The Diversity of the Hispanic Community"

September 14: **Michele Listisard**, "Miss Deaf America Pageant"

October 19: **Ronald Hirano**, "The Deaf Japanese-American Experience in World War II"

December 7: **Alfred Sonnenstrahl**, "Deaf Humor in the Nineteenth Century"

February 11, 1999: Alice L. Hagemeyer, "The Quotable **Frederick C. Schreiber**"

April 12, 1999: **Rex Lowman**, "Deaf Poetry"

May 17, 1999: **Leroy and Evelyn Christian**, "Two Dummies at the Baseball Field!"

—Compiled by Alice L. Hagemeyer

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BUILDING BETTER FAMILIES

The Parent Advisory Council of Northern Virginia has set up a series of parenting classes for deaf and hard-of-hearing parents raising hearing children. These classes will last for

eight sessions, starting March 8 and running through May 3, and will be taught by a Deaf instructor in ASL. Topics covered include: why hearing children sometimes have problems in school and how to identify and correct such problems; cultural differences between hearing and deaf people and what to teach your child about them; different communication strategies and which one is best for your child; CODAs/KODAs and what they do.

A videotape, ***Parenting Skills: Bringing Together Two Worlds***, developed by the PAC, will be used in class. It's been shown at several Deaf-related conferences in the past and has gotten a favorable response.

All classes will be held at Sherwood Regional Library in Alexandria, Virginia. Cost: $35/single and $40/couple. Checks were to be made payable to Parenting Advisory Council and mailed to P.O. Box 135, Fairfax, Virginia 22030 before classes started; the deadline was February 28. But you can ask about future classes. Contact **Sonya Stagnoli** at ☎(703) 385-2083 (TTY/Voice) or ❖ParentAdvC@aol.com (E-mail).

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD . . . AND TO BE COUNTED!

♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥

Your help is needed. Deaf married couples who have either a good relationship or one that's struggling, are needed to fill out a variety of questionnaires for our research study. No names needed! Confidentiality° is assured in this project.

There is not enough research available on Deaf marriages. According to 1994 marital statistics, approximately 50% of all American marriages end in divorce. This new research and the data collected can benefit and help organizations and professionals better meet the needs of Deaf people preparing for marriages, and those who are currently married. This research is related to a doctoral-dissertation project and has been approved by the boards of Gallaudet University and Rosemead School of Psychology Research. Both Deaf and hearing researchers are conducting the study.

If you have any questions or want to get a packet of questionnaires, you can E-mail **Missy Barone**, M.A., at ❖MbaroneMHC@aol.com, or call **Cindy Greenslade** at ☎1-800-359-2171 (V—pager service). Or you can write to Cindy Greenslade, c/o Rosemead School of Psychology, Biola University, 13800 Biola Avenue, La Mirada, CA 90639, ☎(562) 903-6000 (Voice). Give an address where survey questionnaires can be sent. Remember, no names are needed. The questionnaires will take you approximately one hour to complete. Those who prefer to do the survey through E-mail can find the questionnaire on a Website, ✷www.turbowp.com/deafstudy/survey1.htm, It's best obtained in NetScape, Internet Explorer, or AOL 3 for 95. Barone and Greenslade thank you for your help.

confidentiality: protection of one's privacy.

♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥ ♥♥

✏ An earlier version of the announcement ("To have and to hold . . . and to be ignored?") was published in the September "News Briefs," p. 21.

SWEET NOTHING COMES TO CHICAGO

Sweet Nothing in My Ear, created and developed by the Fountain Theatre, has won the California Governor's 1998 Media Access Award for Outstanding Achievement in Theatre. The award, which recognizes accurate portrayals of people with disabilities in all media, was presented to the Fountain Theatre's Managing Artistic Director, **Stephen Sachs**, author and director of the play, at the 16th annual awards ceremony in Los Angeles.

Sweet Nothing in My Ear had its World Premiere at the Fountain Theatre, Hollywood, last June. Performed in ASL with voice interpretation and featuring a cast of deaf and hearing actors, the play explores the controversial issue of cochlear implants for deaf children.

The Media Access Awards are given by the California Governor's Committee for Employment of Disabled Persons and were established in 1978 to "acknowledge productions, individuals, and corporate activities in television, film, radio, theatre, and print. The awards seek to recognize and encourage accurate portrayals that transcend° stereotypical language and images of people with disabilities." Since 1978 there have only been seven winners in the Theatre category, including Children of a Lesser God.

"Passionate, insightful, provocative, and moving," wrote the **Los Angeles Times**. **DramaLogue** called Sweet Nothing "a powerful work." **Variety** praised the production's "overall dramatic accomplishment," and Backstage listed it as a "Critic's Choice."

Sweet Nothing had an extended run at the Fountain Theatre. It will next present a full Equity production at Chicago's Victory Gardens Theater, opening April 4 and running through May 24. Previews begin March 28. Sachs will again direct his award-winning and critically-acclaimed play, which features at least half the members of the original Los Angeles cast. **Simon Levy**, the Fountain Theatre's Producing Director/Dramaturg, will produce.

"The Fountain Theatre is thrilled and proud to present the play in Chicago, which is not only a great theater town but a city with a large deaf and hard-of-hearing community," says playwright-director Sachs. "What makes this journey so special is that it gives us the opportunity to further serve the deaf community around the world by dramatizing issues that illuminate their culture and bring those issues to the hearing world. This play connects two cultures through the emotional story of one American family. It doesn't matter if you're hearing or deaf or if you speak with your hands or your voice.

As long as you speak with your heart."

The Chicago production features Deaf actress **Liz Tannebaum-Greco** and hearing actor **Philip Lester** as Laura and Dan, a young couple in a "mixed marriage" who are in bitter opposition over the fate of their deaf child (played by **George Scott Kartheiser**). Original cast member **Vikee Waltrip** will take the role of Laura's mother, Sally, and new cast member **Chuck Baird** will play Laura's father, Max. Recreating their original roles are **Cal Bartlett** (Dr. Flynt), **John Benitz** (Dr. Weisman), **Jennifer Massey**, and **Elizabeth Barrett**.

Performances will be in the 198-seat upstairs mainstage of the Victory Gardens Theater, April 4 through May 24, Tuesday-Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Location: 2257 N. Lincoln Avenue, Chicago. Box Office: ☎(773) 549-3064 (TTY) or ☎(773) 871-3000 (Voice). Fountain Theatre numbers are ☎(213) 663-1098 (TTY); ☎(213) 663-2235 (Voice).

transcend: go beyond; go above; surpass.

THE LAST CONTINENT

The National Theatre of the Deaf has accomplished a goal of global proportions by becoming the world's first theater company to appear on all seven continents.

David Hays, Founder and former Artistic Director, "broke the ice" on Antarctica, NTD's last uncharted continent, by conducting a workshop in late January aboard the Russian icebreaker and exploration vessel, *Akademik Shuleykin*. The workshop was held at the Graham Coast and Latitude 66° 09' South, just south of Palmer Station and 24 nautical miles above the Antarctic Circle.

Hays was engaged as a lecturer and to conduct the workshop. He spoke about the best-selling book he co-authored with his son, **My Old Man and The Sea**, which details Hays' voyage around Cape Horn.

Participating in the workshop, which Hays described as "a good workshop—one of our best, actually," were 40 representatives from Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Israel, Nepal, Mexico, Russia, Sweden, and the United States.

Will Rhys and **Camille L. Jeter**, NTD's Artistic Directors, announced the latest achievement, with high praise for Hays. "It's fitting that David claimed our final continent for us," they said. "Thirty-one years ago, he brought the NTD into the world when he established America's first professional company of deaf and hearing actors. His pioneering spirit never stopped, as he led us from one continent to another. He probably secretly regrets that we've run out of continents. "

Rhys said: "When he hired me in 1967 as a speaking actor for his new company, and we made our first international tour in 1969, little did I know that one day I'd be taking over the artistic leadership of the NTD with Camille and would have the privilege of announcing this historic, all-continent achievement."

Jeter added, "In 31 years of touring, the NTD has logged over one million miles and has given over 7,000 performances, most of them one-night stands. In 1984, we represented the U.S. at The Los Angeles Olympics Arts Festival and in 1986 we became the first theatre from the West to perform in the People's Republic of China. Then in 1992 we became the first U.S. theatre to perform in South Africa following the easing of U.N. sanctions. Think of how many people we've reached! I'm so delighted that our founder has expanded our reach to include Antarctica, our final frontier, even though penguins outnumber people . . . and penguins don't sign!"

NTD is currently presenting an original adaptation of Ibsen's ***Peer Gynt*** on a 6-month, 60-city tour throughout the New England, Mid-Atlantic, Southern, Northwestern, and Midwestern states, ending in Texas in March.

CREATIVE ACCESS: UPDATE

● "Cambodian Court Dancers"—in traditional costumes! March 15, 2:00 p.m., Free Library of Philadelphia, 1901 Vine Street. (Doors open at 1:30.) Free admission.

● The Pennsylvania Ballet, "Accent on Dance," Swan Lake: special program for deaf and hard-of-hearing children 6 to 16. (See the costumes, toe shoes, and try your feet at 'ballet' before going in to see the dress rehearsal.) March 18, 11:45 a.m. sharp! Academy of Music (Broad and Locust Streets, Philadelphia). Free tickets, but make reservations early.

● ***Stomp***, the fabulous visual-musical-dance performance ("many deaf and HH people will love it!"), April 4, 5:00 p.m., Merriam Theatre, Broad & Spruce Streets, Philadelphia. Tickets: $44.00 for CA members (not $4.00 as printed in CA's announcement and last month's "News Briefs"). Those who would also like to have a "Silent Dinner" together at a downtown Philadelphia restaurant after the show should contact CA for arrangements.

● Sign-interpreted "Zoofari"—a 12-day African Safari sponsored by the Philadelphia Zoo and Creative Access: August (exact dates TBA). Spend 12 incredible days and nights with some of the best safari tour guides from the Zoo and from Kenya, South Africa. Stay in magnificent surroundings, including the hotel seen in the Meryl Streep/Robert Redford movie, ***Out of Africa***. (CA recommends that you watch the video if you're at all interested in going on such a trip). Ride in a minivan with 365° wraparound vision. Visit the great migrations and the most animal-populated regions in all of South Africa. (Mount Kilimanjaro and more!) Option: Visit the Deaf school in Nairobi. This trip is fully accessible and will be arranged with highly qualified sign-language interpreters (one interpreter to 6 people). Tickets are $2,500.

☛ Contact Creative Access at 108 Market Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19106; ☎(215) 627-9271 (TTY/Voice);

☎(215) 627-957 (FAX); ❖CrAccess@aol.com (E-mail).

ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST

a message from **Howie Seago**

In case you haven't heard, the German film I appeared in, ***Beyond Silence*** (***Jenseits der Stille***) has been nominated for an Oscar.

Thanks to those who have sent congratulations.

My German director, **Carolyn**, called this a.m. [February 12] at 6:30 (yawn) . . . sez the Academy people will allow only three tickets so it will be the co-producers and her. The producers had requested 8 to include us. But doesn't look like it. And to tell the truth, I'd much rather have a TV party with friends as I would get too nervous down there.

She also says now that the film has been nominated, some American distributors are interested. That's how fickle Hollywood is. They weren't interested before. And I can imagine the price for the film has gone up. The nomination process for the Foreign Film category works like this: each country nominates the best film from their country to the Academy committee. It wasn't surprising that Germany nominated ***Jenseits der Stille*** as it had swept everything in sight in Germany as well [as] winning some awards in other countries like Japan, but it was surprising that the Academy Committee picked ***Jenseits*** as one of five out of the world!!!

In case you want to know, the other films nominated are: ***Four Days in September*** (Brazil), ***Character*** (the Netherlands), ***Secrets of the Heart*** (Spain), and ***The Thief*** (Russia).

Thanks for all your support and keep your fingers crossed.

Cheers,
Howie Seago

P.S. I am very happy and proud of what we (the German company, cast, and crew) have already accomplished, whether or not we win this Oscar.

MAKING CHANGES— WITH A CAMERA

The University of Virginia's 1998 Annual ASL/Deaf Culture Lectures Series got off to an exciting start on February 6, when **Ted Supalla** fascinated the audience with his research into the evolution of ASL. A highlight: his showing of rare archival films of deaf people signing.

On Monday, March 2, the Lecture Series will continue its focus on Deaf Cinema when **Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan** discusses "Using Film to Create Change in Our Community." Bryan, an up-and-coming Black Deaf filmmaker, has written, produced, and directed two short award-winning films: ***Cutting the Edge of a Free Bird*** and ***Listen to the Hands of Our People***. She is showing clips from both and discussing them during her lecture.

Anne Marie "Jade" Bryan

Bryan, who was born in Jamaica, has lived in New York since she was 5. She has a B.F.A. in Film from New York University and has shown her work at a variety of film festivals. She is the founder of DeafVision Filmworks and Jade Films, Inc. Last summer, she worked under **Jonathan Demme** on the film ***Beloved***, starring **Oprah Winfrey** and **Danny Glover**.

Coming up: **Dawn Skwersky** on March 24 ("He Says, She Signs: Capturing the Deaf Experience on Film") and **Lawrence Fleischer** (on the making of ***I Love You—But***) on April 16. All lectures begin at 7 p.m. in McLeod Hall Auditorium on the University of Virginia campus in Charlottesville. They are free and open to the public. Voice-over English interpretation are provided for non-signing members of the audience.

For more information, contact either of the co-directors: **Lisa J. Berke** at ☎(804) 295-8871 (TTY); Voice Relay: ☎1-800-828-1140; ❖ljb9r@virginia.edu (E-mail); or **Chris Krentz** at❖ck9m@virginia.edu (E-mail). Or send a fax to ❒(804) 924-1350.

THANK$!

Twelve top NFL players competed on the second annual Wheel of Fortune "NFL Players Week." The shows were taped November 18, 1997, at Sony Pictures Studio in Culver City, California, and were aired during Super Bowl Week, January 19-23. Players spun the Wheel for their favorite charities and causes.

Linebacker **Chad Brown** of the Seattle Seahawks, formerly with the Pittsburgh Steelers, named WPSD as his charity. He was actively involved with WPSD during his stint with the Steelers and supported its summer camp for deaf and hard-of-hearing children throughout the state.. He said that he was very happy to remember WPSD because "the students made a lasting impression on me." He made a lasting impression, too—WPSD named the camp after him.

WPSD Superintendent **Donald Rhoten** was excited about Brown's continued interest. "Chad was wonderful to WPSD and our summer camp for deaf children. We're honored he chose us as his charity!"

Rosemary P. Garrity of WPSD's PR department said that "Chad has remained, and hopefully will continue to remain, very active in the school." During the off-season, he and his family live in Boulder, Colorado. He owns his own business, "Pro Exotics," breeding and selling non-venomous snakes and

reptiles. WPSD received a bearded lizard, named Taylor, as a gift. Brown also donated an autographed Steelers helmet and jersey to be auctioned off.

Brown competed against **Jerome "The Bus" Bettis**, a current Steeler, in a game aired January 20. WPSD students, staff, and friends were definitely watching that night.

Even though the Brown-Bettis episode was taped two months previously, in November, the outcome remained a closely-guarded secret—until January 20. According to **Brian Estadt's** writeup in the January 21 issue of the Pittsburgh **Post-Gazette**, "Brown, who did well enough to be a finalist on the show, won more than $6,800 for the school's benefit. (He also finished ahead of former teammate Bettis.)"

WILL THEY CAPTION A TORNADO WARNING?

On January 14, the Federal Communications Commission issued a *Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (Implementation of Section 305 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; MM Docket #95-176) seeking information and comment regarding appropriate rules and policies to promote and to ensure the accessibility of televised emergency information to deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers.

The *Further Notice* defines "emergency information" as "state, local, and regional emergency announcements or reports, including interruptions of regularly-scheduled programming and late-breaking reports during live news programming."

The FCC did not adopt specific closed-captioning rules for emergency information programs in its Closed Captioning Order last year. Due to limited comments on the issue, the Commission determined that further comment was necessary to address captioning rules for such programming.

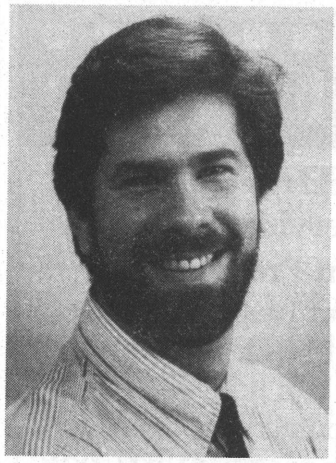
Contact the FCC, Public Service Division, Office of Public Affairs, for a copy of the "Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making." The Comment deadline was February 25 (we didn't get the "Further Notice" in time to notify readers), and the reply-comment deadline is March 27.

For details, contact **Alexis Johns**, Policy and Rules Division, Cable Services Bureau, ☎(202) 418-7172 (TTY) or ☎(202) 418-7200 (Voice). Address:

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

CHALLENGES & STANDARDS

Larry Goldberg, Director of the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM), made a presentation on January 16 to the President's Advisory Committee on Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters, often referred to as the *Gore Committee* because of the Vice President's involvement.



Larry Goldberg

The Committee is comprised of leaders in the broadcast, cable, and high-technology industries as well as consumer advocates. It was created by Executive Order of the President last year to study and recommend what public-interest responsibilities should accompany the broadcasters' receipt of digital-television licenses. Over the past few years, there has been much debate as to what public services should be provided in return for use of bandwidth that is estimated to be worth billions of dollars.

There are some 34 million deaf, hard-of-hearing, blind, and visually-impaired viewers in the nation. Goldberg, an expert in the field of media access, was invited to speak to the committee about the challenges facing disabled viewers, media-access providers, and the television industry as broadcasting enters the digital age. WGBH's Caption Center pioneered access to television via captioning in 1972, and WGBH later established the Descriptive Video Service® to make programs more meaningful to blind and visually-impaired audiences.

Goldberg has worked in the field of media access for more than 12 years. In addition to his responsibilities as director of NCAM, he oversees the entire Media Access division at WGBH (The Caption Center, DVS, and NCAM).

Karen Peltz Strauss, Legal Counsel for Telecommunications Policy for the NAD and a member of the Gore Committee, provided background information on access technologies prior to Goldberg's presentation. Joining Goldberg were **Nolan Crabb** of the American Council of the Blind and **James E. Tucker**, Superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick.

The Caption Center, DVS, and the CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media comprise the Media Access division of the WGBH Educational Foundation in Boston. For more information on these services, contact NCAM ☎(617) 492-9258 (TTY/Voice), ❖ncam@wgbh.org (E-mail), or visit NCAM on the Web: ✱www.wgbh.org/ncam. For more information on the Advisory Committee, call ☎(202) 482-8056 or visit its homepage at ✱www.ntia.doc.gov/pubintadvcom/pubint.htm.■

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